

REC'D DEC 11 2009

REORGANIZATION PLAN SUBMITTAL SHEET

(Each municipality in a School Union must be indicated separately.)

School Administrative Units Included in APPROVED Notice of Intent	School Administrative Units Submitting Reorganization Plan
MSAD #74	MSAD #74
MSAD #13	MSAD #13

Contact Information:

RPC Chair

Name: Mitchell Quint

Address: P.O. 278

North Anson, ME 04958

Telephone: (207) 635-2231

email: mquint@tds.net

Date Plan Submitted: 12/2/09

Proposed RSU Operational Date: 7/01/10

Michael Joint Vice Chair 12-2-09

Signature/Title

Date

MSAD #74

SAU

Brian Malley chair
SAO #13
Bond

Signature/Title

Date

12-2-09

MSAD #13

SAU

Signature/Title

Date

SAU

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SAU

Reorganization Plan Cover Sheet
(Please attach Reorganization Plan as Exhibit A)

Required Elements							
Law Reference Item Number Sub- Chapter 2	Item	N/A	Complete	In Progress	Not Yet Started	Identified Barrier ¹	Need Assistance ²
3.A(1)	SAUs included in RSU		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(2)	Size of governing body		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Composition of governing body		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Apportionment of governing body		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(3)	Method of voting of the governing body		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(4)	Composition of local school committees	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Powers of local school committees	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Duties of local school committees	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(5)	Disposition of real & personal school property		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(6)	Disposition of existing school indebtedness (if not using provisions of section 1506)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Disposition of lease-purchase obligations (if not using provisions of section 1506)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(7)	Assignment of school personnel contracts		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Assignment of school collective bargaining agreements		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Assignment of other school contractual obligations		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(8)	Disposition of existing school funds and existing financial obligations		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(9)	Transition plan that addresses the development of a budget for the first school year		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Transition plan that addresses interim personnel policies		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(10)	Documentation of the public meeting(s) held to prepare or review reorganization plan		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(11)	Explanation of how units that approve reorganization plan will proceed if one or more units do not approve the plan		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(12)	Estimate of cost savings to be achieved		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(13)	Such other matters as the governing bodies of the school administrative units in existence on the effective date of this chapter may determine to be necessary		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

¹ Please explain why this is a barrier and what assistance you need to remove this barrier on the next page.

² Please explain what assistance you need to complete this portion of your plan, and state from whom you need assistance, on page 3.

Parameters for Plan Development							
Law Reference Item Number Sub- Chapter 2	Item	N/A	Complete	In Progress	Not Yet Started	Identified Barrier ³	Need Assistance ⁴
3.B(1)	Enrollment meets requirements (2,500 except where circumstances justify an exception ⁵)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sec. XXXX-36, Parameter B	When viewed in conjunction with surrounding proposed units, may not result in one or more municipalities being denied the option to join an RSU		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.B(2)	Comprehensive programming for all students grades K - 12.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Includes at least one publicly supported high school		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.B(3)	Consistent with policies set forth in section 1451		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.B(4)	No displacement of teachers		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	No displacement of students		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	No closures of schools existing or operating during school year immediately preceding reorganization, except as permitted under section 1512		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sec. XXXX-26, Parameter F	The plan must address how the school administrative unit will reorganize administrative functions, duties and noninstructional personnel so that the projected expenditures of the reorganized school unit in fiscal year 2008-2009 for system administration, transportation, special education and facilities and maintenance will not have an adverse impact on the instructional program ⁶		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Collaborative Agreements		
	Yes	No
Does your plan currently include information/documentation on collaborative agreements? (not required, but encouraged)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Exceptions to 2,500 minimum

Actual number of students for which the SAU is fiscally responsible: 1,105

Exception	Exception Claimed in Plan	Documentation Provided? (Please attach as Exhibit B)	
		Yes	No
Geography	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Demographics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Economics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transportation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Population Density	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Unique Circumstances	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

³ Please explain why this is a barrier and what assistance you need to remove this barrier on the next page.

⁴ Please explain what assistance you need to complete this portion of your plan, and state from whom you need assistance, on page 3.

⁵ Please note in the *Exceptions to 2500 minimum* section on next page

⁶ This requirement is only for those who plan to be operational as an RSU in fiscal year 2008-2009, in accordance with a Reorganization Plan that is approved by the Commissioner and by the voters.

REORGANIZATION PLAN

SAU Submitting: MSAD #74 and MSAD #13

Contact Information

RPC Chair

Mitchell Quint
P.O. Box 278
North Anson, ME 04958

Superintendent

MSAD #74 and MSAD #13
Dr. Kenneth Smith
P.O. Box 360
Anson, ME 04911

Date Originally Submitted by SAU:

Proposed RSU Operational Date: July 1, 2010

The proposed regional school unit includes the following school administrative units:

Maine School Administrative District No. 74
and
Maine School Administrative District No. 13

12/10/09

Table of Contents

The Governing Body: <i>Section 2</i>	3
Weighted Voting: <i>Section 3</i>	3-4
Local Committees: <i>Section 4</i>	4
Disposition of School Property: <i>Section 5</i>	4
School Indebtedness: <i>Section 6</i>	4-5
School Contracts: <i>Section 7</i>	5-6
Disposition of School Funds: <i>Section 8</i>	6-8
Scholarships	9-10
Transition Plan: <i>Section 9</i>	11-12
Documentation of Public Meetings: <i>Section 10</i>	12
School Units and Plan Approval: <i>Section 11</i>	13
Cost Savings: <i>Section 12 and Addendum 1</i>	13-14
Reorganization of Administration: <i>Section 13-A</i>	14
Cost Sharing in the RSU: <i>Section 13-B</i>	14-15
Election of Initial Board Members: <i>Section 13-C</i>	15
Tuition Contracts and School Choice: <i>Section 13-D</i>	15-16
Claims and Insurance: <i>Section 13-E</i>	16
Vote to Submit Plan to Commissioner: <i>Section 13-F</i>	16
Section for RSUs with Fewer than 2,500 Students: <i>Section 13-G</i>	16-17
Other: <i>Section 13-H</i>	18
Exhibits	19-30

2. The size, composition and apportionment of the governing body.

(See Section 3)

3. The method of voting of the governing body.

Section 3

Weighted Voting

The regional school unit board shall be composed of 15 members. Each municipality in the RSU shall elect the following number of its residents to serve on the Board and their votes shall be weighted as follows:

<u>Town</u>	<u>2008 Est. Census</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>No. Dir.</u>	<u>Votes Each</u>	<u>Total Votes</u>
Moscow	632	9.1%	2	46	91
Bingham	971	14.0%	2	70	140
Solon	999	14.4%	2	72	144
Embden	1,000	14.5%	2	72	145
New Portland	773	11.2%	2	56	112
Anson	2,542	36.8%	5	74	368
	6,917	100%	15		1,000

A quorum shall consist of eight (8) Directors representing a minimum of 501 weighted votes, provided however, that in the event of one or more vacancies on the Board at least a majority of the serving members and a majority of the voting power of the serving members, must be present to constitute a quorum.

Voting at all meetings of the Board shall be by hand, voice or roll call. Election of a superintendent shall be by ballot. Except in cases of unanimous votes, the votes of all members shall be recorded in the minutes.

Approval of all motions shall require both a simple majority of the total votes present and a majority of the members present, except motions to go into executive session, which shall require the vote of three-fifths (3/5) of the members present and voting.

Each board member shall serve a 3-year term, except that the initial terms of the members of the first regional school unit board shall be staggered as follows:

	<u>One year terms</u>	<u>two year terms</u>	<u>three year terms</u>
Moscow	1		1
Bingham	1		1
Solon	1		1
Embden	1		1
New Portland	1		1
Anson	1	2	2

4. The composition, powers and duties of any local school committees to be created.

No local school committees shall be created.

5. The disposition of real and personal school property.
(See Exhibit 5)

All real property interests, including without limitation land, buildings, other improvements to realty, easements, option rights, first refusal rights, and purchase rights, and all fixtures, of the original school administrative units shall be property of the region. The regional school unit board may require such deeds, assignments or other instruments of transfer as in its judgment is necessary to establish the region's right, title and interest in such real property and fixtures.

All other tangible school personal property, including movable equipment, furnishings, textbooks and other curriculum materials, supplies and inventories shall become property of the region as successor of the original SAUs.

6. The disposition of existing school indebtedness and lease-purchase obligations if the parties elect not to use the provisions of Section 1506 regarding the disposition of debt obligations.

Bonds, Notes and Lease Purchase Agreements That the Region Will Not Assume.
Pursuant to 20-A M.R.S.A. § 1506(4), the region does not assume the following bonds, notes and lease purchase agreements shown on *Exhibit 1 attached hereto*,

which shall continue to be paid by the members of the original SAU indicated, and the region shall serve as fiscal agent of the SAU for that purpose.

Defaulted Debt is Excluded from Being Assumed. Notwithstanding anything in this Plan to the contrary, except where legally required to do so, the region will not assume any bond, note or lease purchase agreement as to which an original SAU is in breach or has defaulted.

Other Debt Not Assumed. Except as provided in this section of the Plan, the region will not assume liability for any bonds, notes or lease purchase agreements issued by an original SAU prior to the operative date of the region. Such obligations, if any, shall continue to be paid by the members of the original SAUs that issued them, and the region shall serve as fiscal agent of the original SAU for that purpose.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law or any provision of any trust agreement, the region may use any sinking fund or other money set aside by the original education unit to pay an existing debt to pay that debt.

7. The assignment of school personnel contracts, school collective bargaining agreements and other school contractual obligations.

A list of all written individual employment contracts to which each of the original SAUs is a party is attached as *Exhibit 2*. Pursuant to 20-A M.R.S.A. §1463(4), individuals on the list who are employed on the day before the operational date shall become employed by the RSU as of the operational date, and their contracts shall be assumed by the RSU on the operational date. This provision does not prevent the original SAUs from terminating or non-renewing the contracts of employees in accordance with applicable law before the operational date of the RSU. The list shall be updated and made final no later than the day before the operational date of the RSU.

A list of all employees of the existing SAUs who do not have written individual employment contracts is attached as *Exhibit 3*. Pursuant to Section 20-A M.R.S.A. §1463(4), individuals on the list who are employed on the day before the operational date shall become employed by the RSU as of the operational date. This provision does not prevent the original SAUs from terminating employment of the employees in accordance with applicable law before the operational date of the RSU. The list shall be updated and made final no later than the day before the operational date of the RSU.

The duties and assignments of all employees transferred to the RSU shall be determined by the Superintendent of the RSU or his/her designee.

The collective bargaining agreements of the original SAUs listed in *Exhibit 3* shall be assumed by the regional school unit board as of the operational date.

All of the employer's rights and responsibilities with respect to collective bargaining shall be fully assumed by the regional school unit board as of the operational date.

A list of all contracts to which the original SAUs are a party and that may be in effect as of the operational date is attached as *Exhibit 4*. The initial Board of Directors of the RSU will determine whether these contracts are to be assumed or renewed.

It is anticipated that, subject to review and approval of the RSU board, the RSU will assume or renew the contracts listed in *Exhibit 4* as of the operational date. The list of contracts provided in *Exhibit 4* is subject to change at any time including changes made at any time by the initial RSU board.

8. The disposition of existing school funds and existing financial obligations, including undesignated fund balances, trust funds, reserve funds and other funds appropriated for school purposes.

Pursuant to Section 20-A M.R.S.A. §1461(3)(A)(8) the disposition of existing financial obligations is governed by this plan.

Existing financial obligations shall include the following:

- (i) all accounts payable;
- (ii) to the extent not included as accounts payable, any financial obligations which under generally accepted accounting principles would be considered expenses of the original SAU for any year prior to the year the RSU becomes operational, whether or not such expenses were budgeted by the original SAU in the year the obligations were incurred, excluding summer salaries and benefits; and
- (iii) all other liabilities arising under generally accepted accounting principles that can be reasonably estimated and are probable.

Each original SAU shall satisfy its existing financial obligations from all legally available funds. If an original SAU has not satisfied all of its existing financial obligations, the original SAU shall transfer sufficient funds to the region to satisfy its

remaining existing financial obligations, and the regional school unit board shall be authorized to satisfy those existing financial obligations on behalf of the original SAU. If the original SAU does not transfer to the region sufficient funds to satisfy its existing financial obligations, then to the extent permitted by law, the regional school unit board may satisfy those obligations from balances that the original SAU transfers to the region. If the available balances transferred are insufficient to satisfy the original SAU's existing financial obligations, or are not legally available for that purpose, the regional school unit board may take any action permitted by law so that all of the municipalities of the region are treated equitably with respect to the unsatisfied existing financial obligations of an original SAU. For example, to the extent permitted by law, the regional school unit board may satisfy the unpaid existing financial obligations of an original SAU in the same manner and with the same authority as for unassumed debt under the provisions of 20-A M.R.S.A. § 1506(4). Salaries and benefits payable after June 30, 2010 including all summer salaries earned during the 2009-10 school year shall be the responsibility of the regional school unit.

Additionally, to the extent permitted by law, if in the judgment of the regional school unit board it must raise funds from all its members to satisfy existing financial obligations of an original SAU, the regional school unit board also shall be authorized to raise additional amounts for the purpose of making equitable distributions (which may be made in the form of credits against assessed local shares of the region's approved budget) to those region members that would otherwise bear costs attributable to unsatisfied existing financial obligations of an original SAU for which they had no financial responsibility. The intent of the preceding sentence is that financial responsibility for unsatisfied existing financial obligations of an original SAU be borne by its members and not by the other members of the region.

The balance remaining in an original SAU's school accounts after the original SAU has satisfied existing financial obligations in accordance with this plan shall be paid to the treasurer of the regional school unit, verified by audit and used to reduce that original SAU's contribution as provided by 20-A M.R.S.A. §1463(3). The balance from an original school administrative unit must be used to reduce the local contribution to the region of the region members formerly comprising that original school administrative unit in the first year of operation of the region.

Transfers of remaining balances may occur within the period specified by Section 20-A M.R.S.A. §1463(3), or, as may be preferable in the case of a district, at any time before the district has closed its accounts and ceased normal operations.

The original SAUs shall transfer remaining balances of reserve funds to the regional school unit. Unless otherwise provided by applicable law, a transferred reserve fund

shall be used in accordance with its original purpose to benefit a school or schools of the transferring SAU. Transferred reserve funds shall be subject to Title 20-A M.R.S.A. § 1491; except that the transfer of funds in a reserve fund or a change in purpose of the fund may only occur in such manner that the funds continue to benefit the members of the original SAU that transferred that reserve fund to the region. Notwithstanding this paragraph, reserve funds for summer salaries and benefits shall be treated as remaining balances and used to reduce the local contribution to the region of the region member or the region members formerly comprising that original school administrative unit that transferred the reserve fund for summer salaries and benefits.

Original SAUs shall transfer remaining balances of scholarship funds to the region. Scholarships shall be limited to the original pool of potential recipients unless otherwise provided by the donor or by applicable law.

The original SAUs shall transfer trust funds to the region. The regional school unit board shall be deemed the successor trustee for all purposes, except as otherwise provided by the trust or by applicable law.

**Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance for
Year ended June 30, 2009**

	District Revenues	District Expenditures	Fund Balance at 6/30/09
MSAD #74	\$ 8,835,349	\$ 8,992,450	\$ 588,634
MSAD #13	\$ 3,571,847	\$ 2,986,784	\$ 585,063

FUND BALANCE WITH ACCRUED WAGES

			<u>current balance</u>
MSAD #74	UNDESIGNATED	June 30, 2009	\$ (58,040.80)
MSAD #13	UNDESIGNATED	June 30, 2009	\$ 172,927.00

NON MAJOR PERMANENT FUNDS AS OF JUNE 30, 2009

MSAD #13 SCHOLARSHIP ACCOUNTS BALANCE ENDING 6/30/09

Scholarship Name	Amount of CD	Amount in Savings
Geraldine Hannay/Laura Baker	\$22,846.66	No Savings
*Lions Club through Columbia Management	\$ 4,993.41	\$859.75
Evelyn Atwood	\$3,690.96	\$4,311.59
Orrin Hill	\$8,690.77	No Savings
Theresa Davis	\$2,421.82	No Savings
Kenneth Belanger	\$7,333.80	No Savings
Dr. Anna Howes – Regular	\$101,909.08	No Savings
Dr. Anna Howes – Athletic	\$3,139.62	No Savings
Alumni Class	\$978.43	No Savings
Brent Abbott	\$2,296.73	\$1,288.72
William & Alice Beane	\$4,169.71	\$4,329.28
Bruce Bushey	\$12,717.20	\$607.41
Walter Reed	\$1,986.31	\$1,658.36
Helen Steward	\$3,512.62	\$1,481.42
Donald & Rosalie Walker	\$2,138.39	No Savings
Edith Rollins	\$10,959.59	No Savings
Goodwill Club	\$7,620.48	No Savings
Totals	\$201,405.58	\$14,536.53

MSAD #74 SCHOLARSHIP ACCOUNTS**BALANCE ENDING 6/30/09**

Scholarship Name	Amount of CD	Amount in Savings
Sarah Arsenaault		\$161.41
Bodwell Fund		\$13,468.50
Frances Bowen		\$143.24
A.Clement Caron		\$402.86
Rusty Dunphy		\$5,585.59
Jeffrey French		\$3,915.07
CHS General Fund		\$3,386.56
Barbara Henderson		\$6,143.50
Anne & Levis Hogan		\$10,125.05
Damon Lasley Fund		\$10.95
Hester Pullen		\$56,516.98
Rebekah Lodge		\$1,097.04
Renys Charitable Trust		\$1,107.30
Gertrude Sargent		\$448.91
Earl/Esther Spaulding		\$2,624.84
Tozier Scholarship	\$28,272.26	
Shawn "Grimmy Scholarship		\$1,354.06
Willpower		\$202.41
Let Us Never Forget		\$-99.58
Cheryl White Memorial		\$3,200.39
Solon-Queenie Whipple		\$2,723.92
Totals	\$28,272.26	\$112,519.00

9. A transition plan that addresses the development of a budget for the first school year of the reorganized unit and interim personnel policies.

A. Transition Plan for Budget Development. The regional school unit board shall establish interim rules of procedure and shall elect interim officers who shall serve until officers are elected at a meeting following the operational date of the region.

The regional school unit board shall select a superintendent of schools in accordance with Section 1051 of Title 20-A. During the interim period, the salary, office and other expenses of the superintendent, as well as the cost of the regional school unit board, including insurance, shall be allocated to the original school administrative units as provided below.

If a region is formed to become operational as of July 1, 2010, then following the issuance of a certificate of organization by the State Board of Education, the school boards and superintendents of the original SAUs within the region shall begin a process for developing proposed budgets for educational programs and services within their original SAUs for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2010. In developing their proposed budgets, the original SAUs shall consider potential cost savings and additional costs that may result from reorganization. The original SAUs also shall consider changes in operations that may be necessary in order to reduce costs of administration, special education, building and maintenance and transportation without adversely affecting the educational program. During the months of February and March, the school boards of the original SAUs and their superintendents shall conduct joint meetings and budget workshops as necessary to develop a proposed budget for the first operational year of the regional school unit. Specific duties may be assigned to existing personnel with the approval of the employing SAU.

A proposed budget with supporting documentation shall be developed in time for its presentation to and consideration by the initial regional school unit board of directors. The regional school unit board shall complete the budget development process and recommend a budget for consideration by the voters.

The regional school unit board shall propose and approve a recommended budget in accordance with 20-A M.R.S.A. § 1482 for the first operational year for submission to the voters of the region. The budget format, approval procedures and assessments for the regional school unit's first operational year budget shall be in accordance with 20-A M.R.S.A. §§ 1482-1489. The regional school unit board shall have all necessary authority for those purposes.

The regional school unit board shall be authorized to take all other actions and shall have all other authority provided under state law to prepare for the regional school unit to become operational on July 1 of the first operational year; including the authority to open and maintain accounts, to incur expenses not to exceed \$50,000 to be allocated among the regional school units' original SAUs in accordance with their most recent April and October resident pupil count and to file applications for school construction projects and revolving renovation fund loans and other available funding.

B. Transition Plan for Personnel Policies. All personnel policies existing in the original school administrative units shall continue to apply to the same employment positions after they become part of the regional school unit. After the operational date, the regional school unit board and superintendent will develop and adopt region-wide policies in accordance with applicable law.

10. Documentation of the public meeting or public meetings held to prepare or review the reorganization plan.

A record of the date, time, location and minutes of all meetings are documented below and minutes of meetings are attached to the plan as Exhibit 9.

Date of Public Meeting	Time	Location
September 19, 2007	6:30 P.M.	North Anson CCS
October 17, 2007	6:30 P.M.	Jackman-Forest Hills
October 29, 2007	6:30 P.M.	North Anson CCS
November 5, 2007	6:30 P.M.	Greenville Am. Legion
November 27, 2007	6:30 P.M.	Solon Elementary
January 23, 2008	6:30 P.M.	Moscow Elementary
March 12, 2008	6:30 P.M.	North Anson CCS
June 25, 2008	6:30 P.M.	Forest Hills
July 15, 2008	6:30 P.M.	Solon Elementary
August 5, 2008	6:30 P.M.	Moscow Elementary
September 2, 2008	6:30 P.M.	Moscow Elementary
September 10, 2008	6:30 P.M.	Solon Elementary
October 2, 2008	6:30 P.M.	Moscow Elementary
March 9, 2009	7:00 P.M.	Solon Elementary
March 18, 2009	6:30 P.M.	Valley High School
April 8, 2009	6:30 P.M.	Solon Elementary
April 29, 2009	6:30 P.M.	Moscow Elementary
October 28, 2009	7:00 P.M.	Solon Elementary
November 18, 2009	7:00 P.M.	Moscow Elementary

11. How the units that approve the reorganization plan will proceed if one or more of the proposed members of the regional school unit fail to approve the plan.

The plan must be approved by both proposed members of the regional school unit in order for the regional school unit to be formed.

12. An estimate of the cost savings to be achieved by the formation of a regional school unit and how these savings will be achieved.

Estimated Savings

It is estimated that the formation of this Regional School Unit will result in the following cost savings during the first three years of operation:

First year – 2010 - 2011:

Estimated annual savings: \$100,000

The positions in the Central Office that will be eliminated include an Administrative Assistant and Bookkeeper. Other reductions include legal fees, postage, advertising, printing, etc.

Second year – 2011 - 2012:

Estimated annual savings: \$100,000

Savings in the Central Office for the second year will include reductions in payroll, copier leases, supplies, books, equipment, software supplies and support, employee training and development, school board stipends and dues.

Third year – 2012 – 2013:

Estimated annual savings: \$ 50,000

Third year savings will be in purchased service contracts and legal fees.

Total estimated savings: \$ 250,000

Note: The savings will be the result of closing one central office and reducing other district administrative expenses. A Central Office budget includes salaries and benefits for the superintendent, assistant superintendent, administrative assistants, bookkeepers; legal fees; audit fees; board stipends; postage; advertising; printing; copier leases, supplies, books, equipment; software supplies and support; employee training and development; MSSA/MSBA fees and dues, and travel.

Currently SAD 74 has a secretary, payroll clerk, and accounts payable clerk. A superintendent and assistant superintendent are shared with SAD 13. Currently SAD 13 has an administrative assistant and bookkeeper. The superintendent and assistant superintendent are shared with SAD 74.

ADDENDUM 1

DOE Estimated Penalties Under 20-A M.R.S.A. §15696 sub §1, paragraphs A and B Plus Adjustments

<u>SAU School System</u>	<u>Para. A Penalty</u>	<u>Para. B Penalty</u>	<u>*Total Estimated Para. A & Para. B Plus Adjustments</u>
MSAD #13	\$28,237.55	\$14,071.32	\$42,308.98
MSAD #74	\$96,375.83	\$53,877.46	\$150,253.29

*NOTE: This does not include all potential penalties.

13-A. Plans to reorganize administration, transportation, buildings and maintenance and special education.

See proposed reorganization plans outlined below.

System Administration Plan: One superintendent, one payroll clerk, one accounts payable clerk, and one administrative assistant

Transportation/Buildings and Grounds Plan: One supervisor and one secretary.

Special Education Plan: One director of special education services and one secretary.

13-B. Cost Sharing in Regional School Unit

Cost Sharing Formula for additional local funds: For the first three operational years of the RSU (FY 2011, FY 2012 and FY 2013) each member municipality shall be responsible for its share of additional local funds, in an amount up to the amount of the two year average of additional local funds for FY 2009 and FY 2010, calculated on the basis of each municipality's percentage of the two year average of additional local funds as calculated for FY 2009 and FY 2010 (the "historical additional local funds component"); plus its share of the amount of additional local funds, if any, in excess of the historical additional local funds component (the "current additional local funds component"), based 50% on each municipality's percentage of pupils in the prior calendar year and 50% on each municipality's percentage of State valuation for the prior calendar year.

For operational years four through eight of the RSU (FY 2014-FY 2018) the cost sharing formula for additional local funds shall be the same as for years one through three except that the historical additional local funds component shall be reduced to zero over those five years in five equal steps. For operational years nine (FY 2019) and thereafter, each municipality's share of additional local funds shall be based 50% on each municipality percentage of pupils in the prior calendar year and 50% on each municipality's State valuation for the prior calendar year.

Future amendments to the Cost Sharing formula will follow the procedures of 20-A M. R.S.A., Section 1301(3) applicable to school administrative units, as amended by Exhibit 6 which includes language adopting those procedures to regional school units.

Note: The RSUs "additional local costs" are the only costs which are subject to the cost sharing formula described in this section. All other costs are governed by state wide formulas which apply regardless of organizational structure. The FY 2009-10 "additional local costs" to be shared under this cost sharing formula would have been as follows:

M.S.A.D. #74 \$619,633

M.S.A.D. #13 \$401,130

Note: Please see Exhibit 7 for an example of the additional local shared costs.

13-C. Election of initial board of directors

The initial Board of Directors shall be elected as provided in 20-A M.R.S.A. § 1472-A.

13-D. Tuition Contracts

A. Acceptance of Students from Outside the RSU. To the extent permitted by law, the RSU board shall determine whether or not to accept elementary and secondary students from outside the RSU. The tuition rates for elementary and secondary students charged by the RSU to a sending unit shall be the rates determined appropriate by the RSU board, and where applicable shall be approved by the school board or school committee of the sending unit in accordance with 20-A M.R.S.A. §§ 5804(1) and (3) and 5805(2).

B. Tuition Contracts for Secondary Schools. If there are existing tuition contracts between the original SAUs and SAUs outside the RSU, the RSU is bound by those contracts pursuant to section 1479(2), unless otherwise negotiated by the parties.

C. School Choice. None of the original SAUs offers students a choice of which school to attend.

D. Geographic Isolation. In its sole discretion, to the extent not prohibited by law, the RSU board may elect to permit elementary or secondary RSU students to attend schools "out of region" for geographical reasons, and to pay the tuition and transportation expense of those students, pursuant to 20-A M.R.S.A. §§5203(2) and 5204(2).

13-E. Claims and Insurance

Disclosure of claims

The parties are unaware of any lawsuits, administrative complaints, due process proceedings, notices of claim or any other claims.

13-F. Vote to submit reorganization plan to Commissioner.

Before submitting a reorganization plan to the Commissioner of Education, the governing body of each school administrative unit shall adopt the following vote:

VOTED: That the provisions included in the school reorganization plan prepared by the MSAD #74 and MSAD #13 Reorganization Planning Committee to reorganize Maine School Administrative District No. 74 and Maine School Administrative District No. 13 into a regional school unit with an operational date of July 1, 2010, are determined to be necessary within the meaning of 20-A M.R.S.A. §1461(3)(A)(13) and that the Superintendent of Schools be, and hereby is, authorized and directed to submit the school reorganization plan to the Commissioner of Education on behalf of this school administrative unit.

13-G. Section for RSUs with fewer than 2,500 students

- (a) Geography, including physical proximity and the size of the current school administrative units:

MSAD #74 and MSAD #13 are located along the Kennebec River at the

foothills of the Western Mountains. The size of the proposed RSU is approximately 26 miles by 32.5 miles.

(b) Demographics, including student enrollment trends and the composition and nature of communities in the regional school unit:

The largest town in the proposed RSU is Anson (2,583). The other communities range in size from about six hundred to one thousand. The total October 1, 2009 "attending" student population was 766 for MSAD #74 and 243 for MSAD #13. The total student population was 1,009.

c) Economics, including existing collaborations to be preserved or enhanced and opportunities to deliver commodities and services to be maximized:

Special education, technology, food service, adult education, maintenance and transportation services are shared between the original SAUs through an Inter-local Agreement. In addition, vocational transportation is provided to secondary students traveling to the Skowhegan Vocational School (SRVC) through a shared bussing arrangement.

Note: Please see copy of Inter-local Agreement as Exhibit 8.

(d) Transportation:

The RSU will utilize one bus garage for major bus repair work, but local services will be used for minor repairs as a more cost effective method.

(e) Population density: The communities in the proposed RSU are isolated rural communities within the meaning of P.L. 2007, c. 240, Pt. XXXX, §36, sub-§6, ¶A-1, with the largest town being Anson.

(f) Other unique circumstances including the need to preserve existing or developing relationships, meet the needs of students, maximize educational opportunities for students and ensure equitable access to rigorous programs for all students:

The original SAUs share in-service education and staff development programs and share other services under an Inter-local Agreement as described in paragraph (c) above.

13-H. Other

Location of Board Meetings and Annual Budget Meetings

All Board meetings will rotate between towns that have schools. Annual budget meetings will rotate between the areas served.

School Board Directors Pay

Directors shall be paid the maximum allowed by statute to attend all Board meetings.

School Closings

No school in the RSU will be closed for five years after June 30, 2010, unless it becomes prudent to consider other alternatives. All school closings will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of 20-A MRSA sections 1511 and 1512.

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Exhibit 1
School Indebtedness and Lease Purchase Obligations

Name of SAU	Year Issued	Original Principal Amount	Asset Acquired, Constructed or Renovated	Principal Balance as of July 1, 2010	Final Maturity Date
MSAD #74	2006	\$ 60,541	Photocopying Equipment	\$ 11,471	9/2011
MSAD #74	2008	\$ 57,500	Roof Renovation	\$ 45,990	9/2013
MSAD #74	2008	\$ 50,961	Computer Equipment	\$ 17,577	8/2010
MSAD #74	2007	\$ 78,944	Bus Lease	\$ 29,462	2012
MSAD #74	2008	\$ 78,801	Bus Lease	\$ 47,236	2013
MSAD #74	2009	\$ 75,634	Bus Lease	\$ 59,359	2014
MSAD #74	2009	\$ 80,157	Bus Lease	\$ 62,908	2014
MSAD #13	2007	\$594,956	Roof Renovation	\$176,756	7/1/19
MSAD #13	2005	\$228,528	Boiler Renovation	\$ 40,950	7/1/10
MSAD #13	2008	\$104,499	Laptops	\$ 47,886	8/2011
MSAD #13	2007	\$ 61,765	Bus Lease	\$ 25,247	8/2011

Exhibit 2

Individual Personnel Contracts

<i>Name of SAU</i>	<i>Position type(s)</i>	<i>Date of expiration</i>
MSAD #13	Superintendent	2011
MSAD #13	District Principal	2011
MSAD #13	Administrative Asst. to the Superintendent	2010
MSAD #13	Elem. Administrative Assistant	2010
MSAD #13	High School Principal Secretary	2010
MSAD #13	Bookkeeper/Payroll Clerk	2010
MSAD #13	ITV Coordinator	2010
MSAD #13	Athletic Director	2010
MSAD #13	School Nurse	2010
MSAD #74	Assistant Superintendent/Principal	2011
MSAD #74	Elementary Principal	2011
MSAD #74	Dean of Students/6-8 AD	2011
MSAD #74	Special Ed Director	2010
MSAD #74	Secondary Principal	2011
MSAD #74	Secondary Vice Principal/AD	2010
MSAD #74	Guidance Director	2010
MSAD #74	Main/Trans Supervisor	2010
MSAD #74	Technology Manager	2010
MSAD #74	Superintendent Secretary	2010
MSAD #74	Business Secretary/Payroll/AR	2010
MSAD #74	Business Secretary/Accounts Payable/Food	2010
MSAD #74	Main./Trans. Secretary/Receptionist/Food	2010
MSAD #74	Guidance Secretary	2010
MSAD #74	Secondary Secretary	2010
MSAD #74	Secondary Secretary	2010
MSAD #74	District Special Education Secretary	2010
MSAD #74	Elem. Coordinating Secretary	2010
MSAD #74	Elem. Secretary-Embden	2010
MSAD #74	Elem. Secretary-Garret Schenck	2010
MSAD #74	Elem. Secretary-Solon	2010
MSAD #74	Technology Technician	2010
MSAD #74	Technology Technician	2010
MSAD #74	Bus Mechanic	2010
MSAD #74	Maintenance	2010
MSAD #74	District Nurse	2010
MSAD #74	Social Worker	2010
MSAD #74	Social Worker	2010
MSAD #74	Social Worker	2010

Exhibit 3
Collective Bargaining Agreements

SAU	Positions Included in Bargaining Unit	Next Termination Date
MSAD #13	Teachers	2011
MSAD #13	Support Staff (custodians, food service, bus drivers, transportation aide, Ed. Techs.	2009 (Currently Negotiating)
MSAD #74	Teachers	2011
MSAD #74	Support Staff -Cook Manager Cook Assistant I, Cook Assistant II, Ed Technician I, Ed Technician II, Ed Technician III Bus driver/custodian, Custodian, Groundskeeper, Maintenance personnel	2010 (Currently Negotiating)

Exhibit 4 Other Contracts

SAU	Contracting Party	Type of Contract	Expiration Date
MSAD #74	Fairpoint Communications	ATM System	2011
MSAD #74	U.S. Cellular	District Cell Phones	2012
MSAD #74	TDS	District Phone Service	2014
MSAD #74	Data Watch Security	System of IA Building	Annual
MSAD #74	Seacoast	Bus Garage Security	Annual
MSAD #74	Simplex	Buildings Clocks and Alarms	Annual
MSAD #74	A-Copi	Copier R&M	2011
MSAD #74	Leo Mayo	Trash Removal	2010
MSAD #74	Three Rivers Disposal	Trash Removal	2010
MSAD #74	Jim Manzer & Son	Plowing	2010
MSAD #74	M.S.A.D. #54	Vocational Assessment	Annual
MSAD #74	Bob's Cash Fuel	Heating Oil	2010
MSAD #74	Various Software Vendors	Licenses	Annual
MSAD #74	Fundsense	Accounting/Payroll Support	Annual
MSAD #74	Powerschool	Student Information System	Annual
MSAD #74	GEM Software Development Inc.	Special Education Case Management & Medicaid Reimbursement Administrator	Annual
MSAD #74	Plato Learning	Software Maint/Service	Annual
MSAD #74	MSMA	Insurances	Annual
MSAD #74	Kannon Communications	District Email System Maint/Service	Annual
MSAD #74	Info Track	K-12 Student Web Access to Reference Books and Information	Annual
MSAD #13	Bolster's Rubbish Removal	Trash	Annual
MSAD #13	M.S.A.D. #54	Vocational Assessment	Annual
MSAD #13	Bob's Cash Fuel	Heating Oil	Annual
MSAD #13	ADS	Accounting/Payroll Support	Annual
MSAD #13	Powerschool	Student Information System	Annual
MSAD #13	GEM Software Development Inc.	Special Education Information System & Medicaid Reimbursement Administrator	Annual
MSAD #13	Fairpoint	Telephone Service	Rolling
MSAD #13	MSMA	Insurances	Annual
MSAD #13	Software	Site Licenses	Annual
MSAD #13	NWEA	Testing	Annual
MSAD #13	Minerva	Library Support System	Annual
MSAD #13	Plato Learning	Software Maint/Service	Annual
MSAD #13	FIND Inc.	OT Services	Annual
MSAD #13	Kennedy Construction	Snow Removal	Annual
MSAD #13	Lavallee's Garage	Bus Repair/Maint	Annual
MSAD #13	Central Maine Power	Electric	Rolling
MSAD #13	Bingham Area Health Center	Physician Services	Annual

MSAD #13	Pitney Bowes	Postage Meter	Quarterly
MSAD #13	ATM Verizon	ATM System	Annual
MSAD #13	Conterra	Video Conferencing	Annual
MSAD #13	Eastern ME Counseling/Testing	Evaluations	Annual
MSAD #13	Kennebec Valley Mental Health	Counseling Services	Annual
MSAD #13	Keel Hood, CPA	Audit Services	Annual
MSAD #13	SPC	Photocopier R&M	8/2010

Exhibit 5
Building & Land Values

SAU	Building Name	Square Footage	Building Value	Year of Construction or Acquisition
MSAD #13	Quimby Middle School	16,573	\$1,559,000	1952
MSAD #13	Moscow Elementary School	20,493	2,607,000	1953
MSAD #13	Upper Kennebec Valley H.S.	49,691	4,822,000	1962
MSAD #13	Shop	2,905	181,000	1962
MSAD #13	Storage Building #1	600	40,000	2000
MSAD #13	Storage Building #2	552	39,000	2000
MSAD #13	Concession Stand	182	11,000	2000
MSAD #13	Dugout #1	168	1,000	2000
MSAD #13	Dugout #2	168	1,000	2000
MSAD #13	Dugout #3	168	1,000	2000
MSAD #13	Dugout #4	168	1,000	2000
MSAD #74	Carrabec High School	62,504	\$8,323,000	1980
MSAD #74	Industrial Arts Building-CHS	6,212	602,000	1976
MSAD #74	Tractor Building-CHS	852	62,000	1975
MSAD #74	Modular Classrooms (2)-CHS	2,880	212,000	2000
MSAD #74	Quonset Building-CHS	900	16,000	2007
MSAD #74	Storage Garage-CHS	400	7,000	1983
MSAD #74	Concession Stand	420	7,000	1999
MSAD #74	Dugouts-4-CHS	960	8,000	1997
MSAD #74	Carrabec Community School	44,923	6,625,000	2004
MSAD #74	Embden Elementary School	11,381	1,531,000	1964&1987
MSAD #74	Storage Building-Embden	96	1,000	1995
MSAD #74	Garret Schenck Elementary School	23,310	3,686,000	1924&1991
MSAD #74	Storage Sheds (2)-GS	176	3,000	1995
MSAD #74	Solon Elementary School	24,279	2,776,000	1981
MSAD #74	Bus Garage	2,142	126,000	1978
MSAD #74	Carrabec High School	62,504	\$8,323,000	1980
MSAD #74	Industrial Arts Building-CHS	6,212	602,000	1976
MSAD #74	Tractor Building-CHS	852	62,000	1975
MSAD #74	Modular Classrooms 2	2,880	212,000	2000
MSAD #74	Quonset Building-CHS	900	16,000	2007

MSAD #74	Storage Garage-CHS	400	7,000	1983
MSAD #74	Concession Stand	420	7,000	1999
MSAD #74	Dugouts-4-CHS	960	8,000	1997
MSAD #74	Carrabec Community School	44,923	6,625,000	2004
MSAD #74	Embden Elementary School	11,381	1,531,000	1964&1987
MSAD #74	Storage Building-Embden	96	1,000	1995
MSAD #74	Garret Schenck Elementary School	23,310	3,686,000	1924&1991
MSAD #74	Storage Sheds (2)-GS	176	3,000	1995
MSAD #74	Solon Elementary School	24,279	2,776,000	1981
MSAD #74	Bus Garage	2,142	126,000	1978

Exhibit 6

Amendment of cost-sharing formulas. The cost-sharing formula may be amended as follows.

A. If requested by a written petition of at least 10% of the number of voters voting in the last gubernatorial election within the regional school unit, or if approved by a majority of the full regional school unit board, the board shall hold at least one meeting of municipal representatives to reconsider the method of sharing costs. The regional school unit shall give at least 15 days' notice to each municipality comprising the regional school unit of any meeting.

B. Each member municipality must be represented at the meeting or meetings by 2 representatives chosen at large by its municipal officers, and one member of the regional school unit board chosen by the municipality's members of the regional school unit board.

B-I. Prior to the first meeting of municipal representatives, pursuant to paragraph A, the regional school unit shall engage the services of a facilitator selected from the list maintained by the commissioner under 20-A M.R.S.A. §1301(4)C)(1). The facilitator shall:

(1) At the first meeting, review and present data and information pertaining to sharing of costs within the regional school unit. Pertinent information may include, but is not limited to, the following:

(a) A description of the regional school unit's cost-sharing method, the elements involved in the calculation of each municipality's costs and a graphic depiction of the current and historic distribution of costs in the regional school unit; and

(b) If withdrawal of one or more regional school unit members is under consideration, the financial and educational impact of the withdrawal;

(2) Solicit and prepare a balanced summary of the concerns of municipal officials, educators and the public about the current method of cost sharing; and

(3) Develop a plan of action for consideration by the municipal representatives that responds to the information collected and the concerns raised. The plan of action must include a list of expectations for the conduct of the parties, options for proceeding and an assessment of the likely success of those options.

C. A change in the method of sharing costs may only be approved by a majority vote of the municipal representatives present and voting.

C-1. If a majority of the representatives from each municipality meeting pursuant to paragraph A are unable to agree on a recommendation on what the cost-sharing method for the regional school unit should be, within 15 days following the last meeting a knowledgeable 3rd party must be selected in accordance with rules adopted pursuant to 20-A M.R.S.A. §1301(4)(C). The regional school unit is responsible for compensating the 3rd party. The 3rd party shall:

- (1) Prepare a written summary of the process to date, including an assessment of the fairness, accuracy and responsiveness of the recommendations of the facilitator engaged pursuant to paragraph B-1;
- (2) Prepare an impartial recommendation regarding changing the method of cost sharing; and
- (3) Present the summary and recommendations to the municipal representatives for their consideration.

C-2. At an advertised public hearing, the municipal representatives shall solicit public input on the 3rd party's recommendation for cost sharing required under paragraph C-1 and any alternative method or methods proposed by municipal representatives.

D. If a change in the cost-sharing method is approved by a majority of the municipal representatives meeting pursuant to paragraph A, the change must be submitted to the voters at a regional school unit meeting. It becomes effective when approved by a majority vote of the regional school unit in a regional school unit referendum called and held for this purpose in accordance with 20-A M.R.S.A., sections 1501 to 1504, except that, if the proposed change is an alternative cost-sharing plan under subsection 1, paragraph B, subparagraph 4, the change must be approved by a majority of voters voting in a referendum in each municipality in the regional school unit instead of in a regional school unit referendum.

EXHIBIT 7

RSU Cost Sharing of Additional Local Funds Example (see attached)

RSU Cost Sharing of Additional Local Funds

FY	District	Additional Local	Municipalities Share of Addl. Local	Historical 2 year Averages	
				Dollar Amt.	%
2008/09	MSAD #13	531,364	Bingham Moscow	264,492 266,872	19.89% 19.84%
2009/10	MSAD #13	401,131	Bingham Moscow	283,940 212,395	24.19% 18.09%
				83,887	7.15%
				127,315	10.85%
				Total Avg. 1,173,784 100.00%	
2008/09	MSAD #74	795,440	Anson Embden New Portland Solon	323,744 237,041 94,657 139,998	
2009/10	MSAD #74	619,633	Anson Embden New Portland Solon	244,135 187,749 73,117 114,632	
				\$2,347,568	

Estimating Addl. Local for RSU 2010/11 at \$1,000,000

Calculation:

	Hist. %	Est. Addl Local	Cost to Municipality
Bingham	19.89%	\$1,000,000	\$198,865.80
Moscow	19.84%	\$1,000,000	\$198,351.66
Anson	24.19%	\$1,000,000	\$241,900.98
Embden	18.09%	\$1,000,000	\$180,948.97
New Portland	7.15%	\$1,000,000	\$71,467.15
Solon	10.85%	\$1,000,000	\$108,465.44

Exhibit 8

Interlocal Agreement
(see attached)

M.S.A.D. NO. 13 AND M.S.A.D. NO. 74
Interlocal Agreement for Shared Administrative Services
30-A M.R.S.A. Chapter 115

Agreement made as of June 1, 2009 between Maine School Administrative District No. 13 ("M.S.A.D. No. 13"), a Maine school administrative district with a mailing address of 263 Main Street, Bingham, ME 04920 and Maine School Administrative District No. 74 (M.S.A.D. No. 74"), a Maine school administrative district with a mailing address of 56 North Main St., North Anson, ME 04958:

per Supt.
Smith via
phone

WHEREAS, M.S.A.D. No. 74 and M.S.A.D. No. 13 desire to share services with respect to system administration, food service and adult education, administration of special education, administration of transportation and buildings and grounds, and technology for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010; and

WHEREAS, M.S.A.D. No. 74 and M.S.A.D. No. 13 desire to work together to identify additional areas where they might be able to achieve cost savings and/or enhanced educational programming and opportunities for students through joint cooperative efforts; and

WHEREAS, M.S.A.D. No. 74 and M.S.A.D. No. 13 are quasi-municipal corporations and public agencies within the meaning of Chapter 115 of Title 30-A of the Maine Revised Statutes entitled "Interlocal Cooperation," and

WHEREAS, N. Kenneth Smith is currently the Superintendent of Schools of M.S.A.D. No. 13 and M.S.A.D. No. 74; and

WHEREAS, 30-A M.R.S.A. §2203 provides that any powers, privileges or authority exercised or capable of exercise by a public agency of the State of Maine may be exercised jointly with any other public agency of the State;

NOW, THEREFORE, M.S.A.D. 74 and M.S.A.D. NO. 13 agree as follows:

1. System Administration. For the school year commencing July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010, N. Kenneth Smith will serve as the Superintendent of Schools of both M.S.A.D. No. 13 and M.S.A.D. No. 74, and Regina P. Campbell will serve as the Assistant Superintendent of Schools of both M.S.A.D. No. 13 and M.S.A.D. No. 74. During the 2009-10 school year, N. Kenneth Smith will continue to be employed by the Board of School Directors of M.S.A.D. No. 13 and shall continue to receive salary and benefits in accordance with the terms and conditions of his existing contract with M.S.A.D. No. 13. During this 2009-2010 school year, N. Kenneth Smith will be available and serve both Districts full-time. During this 2009-2010 school year, Regina P. Campbell shall continue to be employed by the Board of School Directors of M.S.A.D. No. 74 and shall continue to receive salary and benefits in accordance with the terms and conditions of her contract with M.S.A.D. No. 74.

2. Food Service and Adult Education. As part of her duties as the Assistant Superintendent of M.S.A.D. No. 13 and M.S.A.D. No. 74, Regina P. Campbell shall continue the administration of food service and adult education programs for both M.S.A.D. No. 13 and M.S.A.D. No. 74.

3. Administration of Special Education. During the 2009-2010 school year, M.S.A.D. No. 74 will administer special education.

4. Administration of Transportation and Buildings and Grounds. During the 2009-10 school year, M.S.A.D. No. 74 will administer transportation and buildings and grounds.

5. Technology Administration. During the 2009-2010 school year, M.S.A.D. No. 74 will administer technology.

6. Other Educational Improvements and Costs Savings. During the 2009-10 school year, the Boards of Directors and administrative personnel of M.S.A.D. No. 13 and M.S.A.D. No. 74 will work together on a cooperative basis to identify other areas where they might realize additional cost savings and enhanced educational programming and opportunities for students through joint programs, shared personnel and equipment and other cooperative undertakings. As such opportunities for cost savings and enhanced educational programs and opportunities are identified, M.S.A.D. No. 13 and M.S.A.D. No. 74 will work together to achieve them either during the 2009-10 school year, or if more time is needed, through the organization of a new regional school unit ("RSU") with an operational date of July 1, 2010.

7. Duration. The duration of this Interlocal Agreement shall be for one school year from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010.

8. Legal or Administrative Entity. No separate legal or administrative entity shall be created to carry out the purposes of this agreement. N. Kenneth Smith shall continue to be employed by M.S.A.D. No. 13 under his existing contract provided that his duties and responsibilities shall be as modified by this Agreement. Regina P. Campbell shall continue to be employed by M.S.A.D. No. 74 under her existing contract provided that her duties and responsibilities shall be as modified by this Agreement.

Each of M.S.A.D. No. 13 and M.S.A.D. No. 74 shall bear its own costs under their respective employment agreements.

9. Termination. This agreement may be terminated by M.S.A.D. No. 13 or M.S.A.D. No. 74 with or without cause upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other.

10. Joinder. N. Kenneth Smith and Regina P. Campbell have joined in this Agreement for the purpose of agreeing to the modification of their respective duties and responsibilities without change in any of the terms and conditions of their employment by M.S.A.D. No. 13 and M.S.A.D. No. 74, respectively.

11. Approval of State Officer. This Agreement is conditioned on and subject to approval by the State of Maine Commissioner of Education, provided however, that notwithstanding this paragraph, in accordance with 30-A M.R.S.A. §2205 this Agreement shall be deemed to be approved, and shall become fully effective in the event that the Commissioner of Education fails to disapprove this Agreement within thirty (30) days of its submission for approval.

12. Miscellaneous Provisions.

a) This Agreement shall be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Maine.

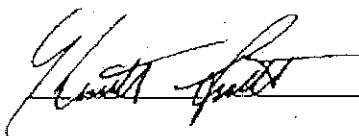
b) This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns.

c) This Agreement constitutes the entire Agreement between the parties, supersedes all prior negotiations and understandings among them and shall not be altered or amended except by written amendment signed by both of them.

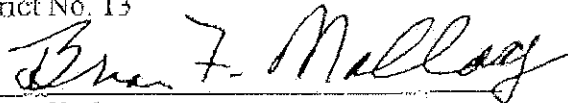
d) This Agreement may be simultaneously executed in any number of counterparts, each of which when so executed and delivered shall be an original; but such counterparts shall constitute but one and the same instrument.

e) The headings in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only and shall not affect in any manner any of the terms and provisions hereof.

WITNESS:



Maine School Administrative
District No. 13

BY: 

Chair
Board of School Directors
Dated: 6-1-09, 2009

WITNESS:



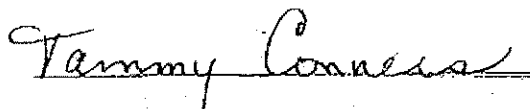
Maine School Administrative
District No. 74

BY: 


Chair
Board of School Directors
Dated: 6-1-09, 2009

per supt
Smith via
phone

WITNESS:

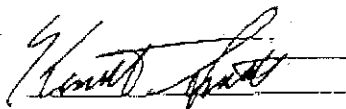


Joinder for the Purposes Stated in the
Agreement


BY: 
N. Kenneth Smith, Superintendent of
Schools, Maine School
Administrative District No. 13
Dated: 6-1-09, 2009

per supt
Smith via
phone

WITNESS:



Joinder for the Purposes Stated in the
Agreement

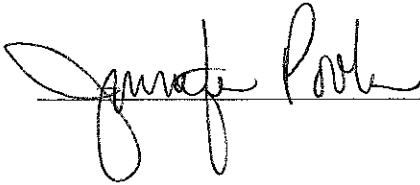
BY: 
Regina P. Campbell Assistant
Superintendent of Schools, Maine

School Administrative District No.
74

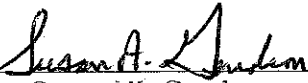
Dated: 6-1-09, 2009

per Supt
Smith via
phone

WITNESS:



Approved for Compliance with
Applicable Law Pursuant to 30-A
M.R.S.A. §2205

BY: 

Susan A. Gendron
State of Maine
Commissioner of Education
Date: DECEMBER 14, 2009

Exhibit 9

**Minutes of Meetings
(See Attachments)**

MSAD #74

Office of the Superintendent

North Anson, Maine

(207) 635-2727, Ext. 1

TO: Reorganization Committee

FROM: Regina Campbell, Ed.D

DATE: September 20, 2007

RE: Minutes of the Reorganization Committee Meeting on September 19, 2007

MINUTES

Dr. Regina Campbell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Elaine Aloes, James Manzer, Melissa Miller, Tammy Murray, Valerie Pinkham, Mitchell Quint, Andrea Reichert, Myra Roderick, David Royce, Fran Sabol,

Members Absent: Kerry Evangelista, Melinda Reid, Charles Taylor (NG), Sylvia Taylor (NG)

Citizens: Doug Cahill, Tracy Lesperance

Agenda Item #1 Introductions

Committee Members and citizens introduced themselves citing the town and area they represented.

Agenda Item # 2 Elections of Chair and Vice Chair

MOTION by Fran Sabol, seconded by Tammy Murray, to nominate Elaine Aloes as Chair of the MSAD #74 Reorganization Committee.

Mitchell Quint called for nominations to cease.

MOTION carried by unanimous consent.

MOTION by Valerie Pinkham, seconded by Tammy Murray, to nominate Melissa Miller as Vice Chair of the MSAD #74 Reorganization Committee

MOTION carried by unanimous consent.

Agenda Item #3. Current Status of MSAD #74

Dr. Campbell read the following correspondence dated September 13, 2007 from Susan A. Gendron responding to MSAD #74's Notices of Intent.

"I have reviewed the intended actions as described in your Notices of Intent and have determined that they do not comply with the requirements of the Reorganization Law, for the following reason(s)":

- The proposed regional school unit listed in the Notice(s) of Intent was not reciprocated by all or some of the units listed.

Please take the following action(s) to achieve compliance:

- Continue the productive discussions you've had in the upper Kennebec region to determine reorganization partners.

The Department stands ready to assist with further financial analysis and to work with you and your facilitator to help remove any barriers within the region."

Dr. Campbell went on to explain that the reason MSAD #74 is not in compliance is because MSAD #12 and MSAD #59 did not file a Notice of Intent to partner with us. MSAD #59 filed one Notice of Intent with MSAD #53 which put them in compliance, but MSAD #53 may partner with MSAD #48 instead which will cause MSAD #59 to be noncompliance. MSAD #12 left us out completely.

Agenda Item #4 Invitation to Meet

The Committee discussed their current status and asked Dr. Campbell to send a letter of invitation to the Reorganization Committee Chairmen of MSAD #12, MSAD #13, MSAD #59, Pleasant Ridge, Caratunk, The Forks Plantation, and West Forks. The meeting will be planned to take place on Wednesday, October 10, 2007 at 6:00 pm at the Carrabec Community School. Dr. Campbell will ask for a state sponsored facilitator to run the meeting. She will also make every attempt to secure a DOE representative who can provide financial data and information pertinent to the municipalities and MSAD's in attendance.

Elaine Aloes, Chairman; Melissa Miler, Vice Chair and Regina Campbell will meet on Wednesday September 26, 2007 at 10:00 am at the Solon Town Office to review and sign the correspondence. (The Letter of invitation will be signed by Elaine Aloes, Chairman.)

Copies of the correspondence will also be sent to Superintendents and Selectmen of each municipality.

Agenda Item #5 Questions and Answers (DOE)

The Committee discussed a number of the Department of Education's 'Questions and Answers' regarding reorganization.

Agenda Item #6 Next Steps in Planning Process

The Committee will be kept informed of any changes by the Regina Campbell, Superintendent through email or postal. Dr. Campbell encouraged each member to check the DOE website often for the most up to date information. (<http://www.maine.gov/education> by clicking on "School Administrative Reorganization" and then e-News Updates)

Agenda Item #7 Schedule Next Meeting Date

The Committee will meet on Wednesday, October 10, 2007 at 6:00 pm at the Carrabec Community School.

Agenda Item #8 Adjournment

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Regina Campbell, Ed.D.
Superintendent

MSAD #74

Office of the Superintendent

North Anson, Maine

(207) 635-2727, Ext. 1

TO: MSAD #74 Reorganization Committee

FROM: Regina Campbell, Ed.D, Superintendent

DATE: September 28, 2007

RE: Postponement of Reorganization Planning Committee Meeting
on Wednesday, October 10, 2007 at 6:30 pm at the Carrabec
Community School.

In the past week I have had three conversations with Jim Rier from the financial branch of the Department of Education in regards to our situation. He has met with Commissioner Gendron about it, and they agreed to assist us in finding suitable partnerships. Mr. Rier suggested that before we have another public meeting, that the Reorganization Committee Chairmen, and the Superintendent and Business Secretary of each SAD meet with him to review the financial picture outlining possible partnerships. Once all participants agree with the financial data provided, a public meeting will be scheduled inviting all Reorganization Committee members to share this data and start to form partnerships.

The meeting with Mr. Rier should take place within the next two weeks and from that meeting we can schedule the next. I hope I haven't confused you with this new direction. But I have to admit, this whole process has been the most confusing venture I've been part of in my thirty years of education. If it is any consolation, Mr. Rier said that we are in better shape than a lot of other areas and that we have shown that we are trying to do the work with "good faith and due diligence". If you have any questions, please call or email.

Thank you for your time and I'll keep you posted.

The MSAD #74 Reorganization Planning Committee attended the Northwest Region Planning Committee Meeting (Bingham, Jackman, Greenville and all the towns in between) on Wednesday October 17, 2007 at 6:30 pm at the Forest Hills School in Jackman, Maine. Eight MSAD #74 Committee members and citizens attended the meeting. The Agenda items that were covered included financial information provided by the DOE, governance scenarios (RSU School Board membership), cost sharing, and the elements required in the RSU plan due on December 1, 2007. The group chose not to elect a chair and vice chair because there was not a firm commitment from all communities attending. This will take place at the next meeting which has not been scheduled as of yet. Committees have been formed to look at the elements of the RSU Plan and determine what work needs to be done. Mitchell Quint volunteered to serve on this Committee. All SAD's reported where they are in the process and Elaine Aloes, MSAD #74 Chairmain reported that the cost sharing formula will determine whether we choose to stay with the group. With the present state mandated formula, MSAD #74 will be responsible for approximately \$428,000 more than what we are currently paying. All in all this meeting was much more productive than the meeting in Moscow, but we still are still in the partner investigation phase.

MSAD #74 and MSAD #13 (Bingham and Moscow) Reorganization Planning Committees will meet on Monday October 29, 2007 at 6:30 pm at the Carrabec Community School Library. The purpose of this meeting is to begin conversations and identify information needed for a possible partnership. Please call Karen at my office if you are unable to attend this meeting.

Elaine Aloes, Chairman of the MSAD #74 Reorganization Planning Committee has sent a letter of invitation to Troy Emery, Chairman of the MSAD #59 Reorganization Planning Committee to attend a meeting on Thursday, November 1, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. in the Carrabec Community School Library. The purpose of this meeting is to begin conversations and identify information needed for a possible partnership. We should know by the meeting on the 29th if they have accepted the invitation. Town Selectmen and Superintendents representing both MSAD's have been sent a copy of the letter.

If you have any questions, please call or email. Have a great weekend and see you on the 29th.

Present. Elaine Aloes (S) Dave Koyce (WP) Tracy Lesperance (E)
 #74 Myra Roderick (A) Chuck Taylor (E)
 Doug Cahill (A) other - Wendy Witham (E)
 Mitch Quint (A) 10/17/07

6:30pm

Northwest Region Planning Committee
Meeting

- Powerpoint presentation
- Financial information (meeting w/ Jim Rier 10/10/07)
- Governance -
 - weighted votes
 - w/SAD #74 10,515 citizens
 - w/out #74 5,515 citizens
- Cost Sharing
 - would have to be developed
- Review Elements of Plan
 1. Units to be included
 2. Size and composition of gov. body
 3. method of voting
 4. Composition, powers, duties of school comm.
 5. Disposition of real & personal school property
 6. Disposition of existing debt
 7. Assign. of personnel & other contracts
 8. Disposition of trust funds, reserve funds & other funds
 9. A transition plan for the first year
 10. Documentation of public meetings
 11. Explanation if some units do not approve
 12. Estimated cost savings
 13. misc.
- Election of Chair - Vice Chair - Secretary
- All units reported their plans
- one community would need to file a letter of intent

5 Volunteers

-Greenoille

-Jackson

-Bingham - Ben

-Hansen - Mutt

-Heath - Foks

Adjudgment - 8:30 pm

MSAD #74

Office of the Superintendent

North Anson, Maine

(207) 635-2727, Ext. 1

TO: MSAD #74 Reorganization Committee

FROM: Regina Campbell, Ed.D. *Regina*

DATE: November 1, 2007

RE: Minutes of Meeting with MSAD #13 on Monday, October 29, 2007, 6:30 p.m. at Carrabec Community School Library

MINUTES

Present: **MSAD #13** – Brian Malloy (School Board Chairman, Bingham), Lawrence Malloy (Selectman, Bingham), Dr. Kenneth Smith (Superintendent, MSAD #13), Maynard Lagasse (Selectman, Moscow), Carlton Barnes (Citizen, Bingham), Donald Beane (Selectman, Moscow)

MSAD #74 – Myra Roderick (School Board Member, Anson), Chuck Taylor (Selectman, Embden), Jim Manzer (Citizen, Embden), Douglas Cahill (Selectman, North Anson), Fran Sabol (Citizen, Anson), Tammy Murry (School Board Member, Anson), Judy Robertson (Citizen, Solon), Elaine Aloes (Selectman, Solon), Andrea Reichert (Town Manager, New Portland), Mellisa Miller (School Board Member, Embden), Wendell Routon (Selectmen, Embden)

1.) Introductions

Dr. Regina Campbell welcomed the group to MSAD #74 and introduced Elaine Aloes, MSAD #74-Regional Planning Committee Chairman. Mrs. Aloes explained the purpose of the meeting and asked all present to introduce themselves, their position and the town they represent.

2.) Benefits of Consolidating MSAD #13 and MSAD #74

The group identified the following as benefits to consolidating MSAD #13 and MSAD #74.

- More opportunities for advanced programs for students
- More student participation in programs
- Significant savings in technology
- One management information system (sped net, financial etc.)
- Consolidate special education programs with service center in Skowhegan
- Combined leases (Copiers etc.)
- Better programs and more programs for students (after school program etc.)
- Transportation services (bus routes, garage maintenance etc.)
- Teachers able to travel between schools
- Common schedule/calendar
- Administrative services

3.) Obstacles of Consolidating MSAD #13 and MSAD #74

The group identified the following as obstacles to consolidating MSAD #13 and MSAD #74.

- Salary differences/contracts
- Closing schools
- Financials
- Debt
- Participation in student activities – distance
- Number of students, 1200 ?
- School Board Structure
- Transportation
- Absorbing MSAD #13 in MSAD #74 High School (90/285)
- 10th to 12th grade – what to do?
- Gaining citizen support
- Plan “we” can support
- Conditions of buildings

4.) Next Steps

The group requested that the Superintendents contact the Department of Education for answers to their questions centering on funding options and leniency of the required number of students for an approved RSU. The group agreed to continue conversations with MSAD #74, Union 60 and MSAD #12.

5.) Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

MSAD #74

Office of the Superintendent
North Anson, Maine
(207) 635-2727, Ext. 1

TO: MSAD #74 Reorganization Committee
FROM: Regina Campbell, Ed.D.
DATE: October 30, 2007
RE: Updates

Please be informed that the meeting scheduled for November 1, 2007, with the MSAD #59 Reorganization Committee has been cancelled. They will notify us if or when they wish to meet with us after their November 19, 2007, School Board Meeting. I will let you know what their decision is.

There will be a meeting on Monday, November 5, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. The location of the meeting will depend upon the outcome of the vote on November 1, 2007, by Greenville's Board to continue meeting with the Northwest Region (MSAD #12, MSAD #13, MSAD #74, and all of the towns in between). If Greenville votes to continue to meet with us, the meeting will be held in Greenville. If not, the meeting will be in Moscow. If you can attend this meeting, please call the office on Friday after 11:00 a.m. or on Monday and we will let you know the location of the meeting. If you can not attend the meeting, please call and let us know so that we will have an accurate count of the members attending.

Our meeting last night with MSAD #13 was very productive. I will be sending you the Minutes of that meeting.

If you have any questions, please call or e-mail.

REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
PROPOSED NORTHWEST EDUCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

November 5th, 2007 @ American Legion Post ~ Greenville, 6:30 p.m.

6:30 – 7:00

Co-Chairs presentation of Subcommittees

- Sub-committee 1: Brian Malloy
- Sub-committee 2: Heather Sylvester
- Sub-committee 3: Linda Griffin
- Sub-committee 4: Mitchell Quint
- Sub-committee 5: Ralph Johnson

7:00 – 7:15

“In a Perfect World”

- Discussion to be led by Heather Perry, Superintendent of Schools, Union 60 on the following topics:
 - The Two Choices
 - Can We Agree?
 - Returning to the correct focus. . . STUDENTS!
 - Suggestions on how to proceed

7:15 – 7:45

Recommendations from Superintendents:

- The Plan
- Local Cost Sharing above EPS
- Weighted Voting System
- Technical support of subcommittees
- Mileage Reimbursement and fiscal agency
- Next Meeting
- Communication of final draft to be submitted to DOE. . . When?

7:45 – 8:00

Caucus Time. . . how to proceed?

- Each RPC group should caucus and come back to whole group regarding internal commitments on how to proceed from this point forward.
- Report out to whole group

8:00

Adjourn. Next meeting?????

(Suggestion of 11/20 @ Carrabec)

Directions to American Legion Hall, Greenville ME.

Coming from North (Jackman):

- Take Route 15 South.
- Upon entering Greenville Junction, stay on Route 15
- You will pass CA Dean Memorial Hospital on your right, continue south on 15
- Look for American Legion Hall on the right about 1/4 mile from Hospital.
- If you pass the school, you've gone too far, turn back and try again! ☺

Coming from South/West (Anson, Bingham, etc)

- From Bingham, take Route 16 East to Abbot, ME.
- At the intersection in Abbot, take a left heading North on Route 15
- Stay on 15 through the towns of Abbot, Monson, and Shirley. . . the next town will be Greenville.
- Upon entering Greenville Proper, you will see a flashing yellow light
- Take a left at the yellow light and proceed on Rt. 15 north
- You will see the MS/HS on your left, keep going for approximately 1/10 of a mile
- American Legion is on your left shortly after the school.
- If you pass CA Dean Memorial Hospital, you've gone too far, turn back and try again! ☺

MSAD #74

*Office of the Superintendent
North Anson, Maine
(207) 635-2727, Ext. 1*

TO: MSAD #12, 13, 74, Caratunk, Dennistown, The Forks Plantation, Pleasant Ridge, West Forks Regional Planning Committee Members

FROM: Regina Campbell, Ed.D.

DATE: November 28, 2007

RE: Minutes of Meeting on Tuesday, November 27, 2007, 6:30 p.m. at the Solon Elementary School

Minutes

Present: MSAD #12 – Marcia Van Camp (Selectperson, Jackman), Christopher Fife (Citizen, Moose River), Harald Moore (Selectperson, Moose River), Alan DuPlessis (Citizen, Jackman), Clarence Begin (School Board Member, Jackman), Nancy Paradise (Administrative Assistant, Jackman), Linda Griffin (School Board Member, Jackman)

MSAD #13 – Brian Malloy (School Board Chairman, Bingham), Dr. Kenneth Smith (Superintendent, MSAD #13), Maynard Lagasse (Selectman, Moscow), Carlton Barnes (Citizen, Bingham), Donald Beane (Selectman, Moscow)

MSAD #74 – Myra Roderick (School Board Member, Anson), Chuck Taylor (Selectman, Embden), Jim Manzer (Citizen, Embden), Douglas Cahill (Selectman, North Anson), Fran Sabol (Citizen, Anson), Tammy Murry (School Board Member, Anson), Judy Robertson (Citizen, Solon), Elaine Aloes (Selectman, Solon), Mellisa Miller (School Board Member, Embden), Melinda Reid (School Board Member, Solon), Mitchell Quint (School Board Member, North Anson), Tracy Lesperance (Citizen, Embden), Valerie Pinkham (School Board Member, New Portland)

The Forks Plantation – Judith Holbrook (Citizen)
Pleasant Ridge – David Robinson (School Board Member)

There were seven (7) citizens present

1.) Introductions

Dr. Regina Campbell welcomed the group to MSAD #74 and introduced Elaine Aloes, MSAD #74 Regional Planning Committee Chairman. She briefly reviewed the agenda and introduced Dr. Kenneth Smith, Superintendent MSAD #13 who provided the group with financial information pending Legislative action this spring. (attached)

2.) Verification of Participating SAU's and Towns

The Committee verified the following participants, MSAD #12, 13, 74, Caratunk, Dennistown, The Forks Plantation, Pleasant Ridge, and West Forks.

3.) Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

Elaine Aloes, Solon Selectmen, was elected as Chairman of the Regional Planning Committee by unanimous consent.

Linda Griffin, Jackman School Board Member was elected as Vice Chairman of the Regional Planning Committee by unanimous consent.

4.) Committee Group Work

The Committee divided into the following groups.

Governance

Brian Malloy

Harold Moore

Chris Fife

Melissa Miller

Tracy Lesperance

Melinda Reid

Judy Robertson

5.) Reorganization Plan

The Regional Planning Committee voted to submit the Reorganization Plan and Checklist (attached) as presented to Commissioner Susan Gendron by the December 1, 2007 deadline by unanimous consent.

6.) Schedule Next Meeting

The Regional Planning Committee will meet on Wednesday, January 23, 2008 at 6:30 pm at the Moscow School.

5.) Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

UPPER SOMERSET COUNTY REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT
(RSU) MEETING - January 23, 2008

The RSU 24 meeting was held at the Moscow Elementary School on January 23, 2008, being called to order at 6:30pm by facilitator William Cummings. Representatives from towns between Jackman and Madison-Anson were in attendance.

William Cummings welcomed everyone and introductions were made. He stated that the purpose of being here is about young peoples lives. His background is to assist young people to have productive, meaningful, contributing lives. He said that the most important things is how we are with our children, and honoring human beings. He requested that we make an agreement to treat each other with loving kindness. He asked that one person at a time speaks in the room. A third party conversation is damaging. The most important thing in an agreement is ask questions at all times.

Elaine Aloes wanted to discuss whether Madison and Pittsfield (SAD 59 and SAD 53) should be extended an invitation to join us, or should we stay with who we are now. She said the letter was a month late in sending out. Things did not go the way this committee wanted them to.

Heather Sylvester mentioned that Madison was not here for the first meeting. She believed they did not want to join.

William Cummings said they might want to join now. We don't want to set a situation.

Fran Sabol indicated that Madison might want to join.

Chuck Taylor said the original plan was submitted.

Regina Campbell advised the group that she had discussions with SADs 13 and 74 to start planning to include 59.

Jackman man thought Pittsfield and Skowhegan were here first meeting.

Elaine Aloes reported that all were here.

William Cummings asked if we should re-invite those two committees. There is no reason to turn it around and start over. If 1932 passes, you would be able to use a potpourri of funding formulars.

Elaine Aloes said Regina Campbell told her she was talking to everyone to be open for suggestions. All that doesn't matter—only what is here today. Do we want to send another letter to Madison and Pittsfield to see if they want to join?

Fran Sabol reminded everyone that this is the 5th or 6th meeting. Did anyone get anything out of them? The next time everything was thrown at them wanting to just "get it done". How much opportunity did you have to make any comments?

Kenneth Smith said this committee cannot decide—it needs to be done by the school boards to vote to allow anyone else to join the group.

William Cummings heard a new ruling in Augusta. The issue is do you think there is an advantage to inviting Madison and Pittsfield in?

Elaine Aloes heard it has nothing to do with the school boards--- just the RPC here.

William Cummings reported that this has to be approved by the Commissioner. The RPC has authority to extend an invitation, but it has to go to the Commissioner.

Jackman man said we can't go back to the townspeople. The entire committee has the say, not the school committee.

William Cummings doubted if the Legislature will pass a bill to create a _____ in the RCU. It will come down to not cost the taxpayers any money.

Elaine Aloes said we need to get it out of the way.

Brian Malloy asked if this committee decides not to ask Madison and Pittsfield, does that mean that SAD 74 may not want to continue our talks?

Elaine Aloes reminded that we have already made a commitment to this committee.

_____? _____ said a law may be made to allow a town to pull out. The people are here to _____ their committee.

Fran Sabol agreed that Mr Malloy made a good comment. He said he would vote to defeat this, or else he might resign from this committee if he can't support it the way it is now.

Regina Campbell reported that there are 2600 students in Madison and Pittsfield.

Andrea _?(Newport)said that SAD 74 didn't fully explore their options. She would like to see this committee decide on Madison and Pittsfield, and move on.

William Cummings noted that we are wasting time, and we need a motion.

Fran Sabol made the motion to send out an invitation to SADs 59 and 74 to explore joining this RSU and participate in the discussions at our meetings in the future. The motion failed. Bill invited those who don't agree to find ways.

Carlton Barnes announced that SAD 13 concluded that they needed to talk about having more than one superintendent for Bingham, Jackman, Madison and Pittsfield.

Jackman man told the group that he was mislead about this meeting. He came here with lots of personal property information, and wants to get on with the meeting.

Mike Carver asked how big a school committee would there be. He felt our group would be lost in a group that size.

Clarence Begin reported on the Education Committee hearing of proposed education bills. He said that any business in Maine or any place else that intends to merge with another, takes two to three years. An example was Plum Creek and Verizon He was told by someone that everyone is not in this plan. In regards to 1932, he was in Augusta yesterday. They were advised to not vote on 1932 yet. If it gets printed, we will never get the other questions answered.

Fran Sabol questioned the tweeking of the notion of funding.

Clarence Begin said there were new numbers that were pulled out. The biggest frustration is lack of guidance.

William Cummings mentioned that the State of Maine is in a fiscal crisis. We are going to have to find ways to do things more efficiently and more economically.

Brian Malloy stated the State took away 36 million dollars, and why didn't it stop there? This process should make a better education for the kids. The RSU may very well start closing schools.

William Cummings said this wasn't his choice either. Right now we're not talking about closing schools—we need to talk about what is good for the kids. There needs to be a committee to inspire teachers such as the article in the newspaper on Luke Hartwell.

Kenneth Smith spoke about the state funds to help pay for Planning Committee expenses. The state has approved the \$2,500 for this. The identification of the fiscal agent is SAD 13. There is also the \$25,000 grant money of which there is \$16,000 left in the account. This can be used for additional travel.

William Cummings reported on the Commissioner of Education's response to the RSU Plan. He said they should meet on a regular basis at least every two weeks. All committees could meet that same night. They should be not more than two hours. It was agreed that they will meet once a month, and some could do it via ATM. The committees should decide when they will meet. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, February 27th, at the Carrabec High School at 6:30 live, and over the ATM for Jackman.

The five committees are:

- 1) Governance Committee chaired by Brian Malloy
- 2) Real property, leasing, personal property, purchasing
All needs to be transferred to RSU
- 3) Personal contracts, collective bargaining, dispense of school
funds – keep in your own schools
- 4) Contracts – board needs to be elected. Superintendent
needs to be elected
- 5) Demonstrate to people in Augusta that we have saved money.
Plans to reorganize administration
Support
Transition planning

These committees met in their own individual groups.

William Cummings announced that we are not done yet with the reconciliation. The work needs to be done or the decisions will be made around us.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

nms

UPPER SOMERSET COUNTY (RSU 24) REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 12th, 2008

1. Welcome
2. **Establish Voting Members of Regional Planning Committee**
 - Voting members of the RPC were seated at the table along with the following non-voting members:
 - i. Regina Campbell – Superintendent of Schools, MSAD 74
 - ii. Ken Smith – Superintendent of Schools, MSAD 13
 - iii. Heather Perry – Superintendent of Schools, MSAD 12
 - iv. Bill Cummings – MDOE Facilitator
3. **Establish quorum for conducting business and method of voting.**
 - The RPC agreed to vote by raising hands.
4. **To See if the Board will vote to approve the minutes of January 23rd, 2008.**
 - There were no minutes taken at the previous meeting, therefore none to approve. This item was tabled.
5. **Hear Reports of the Following Committees:**

GOVERNANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Assuming all members then there would be 23 board members and they would be weighted. See attached notes for details.○ If just three larger units, there would be one director for each, except Anson would have 3. There would be a total of 10 or 11 directors. That is using the 2% variance.○ We decided that we would not recommend local school committees. Rationale would be harder to find people to run anyway, and difficult to figure out what powers would be given to the local boards. The governance committee decided not to recommend the local school committees.
PROPERTY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Four members met one evening, and we reviewed the property books from the three different areas.○ There are an awful lot of questions.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ List what you don't want to keep, but on lease purchases, etc. you list everything that you are going to keep. ○ Issues of debt. SAD 74 is the only one with any amount of debt. ○ SAD 74 would be responsible for that existing debt. ○ Facilitator shared that any property required to the new RSU would be deeded to the RSU at the creation of the RSU. If anything happens to the RSU, then the municipality would take over the facilities anyway. ○ All property would go to the RSU unless listed to be excluded. ○ Question about scholarships and whether they came under the property committee or the contract committee. ○ Did any committee review those scholarships? Facilitator suggests that those scholarships remain in those communities unless they are larger. ○ Suggestion that there is a generic statement that can be added to the plan that would cover that. ○ There seemed to be consensus that clause would be a good addition and something to add to the plan. <p>SEE HANDOUT</p>
CONTRACTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Really, only people from Jackman on that committee. ○ Did a lot of e-mailing. ○ Just recently got the paper that shows all units. ○ The information we need to include in the plan is present. ○ Facilitator shares that we are going to want to figure out a plan for molding them (contracts for teachers, etc) in over a period of time. <p>SEE HANDOUT</p>
TRANSITION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Three members met to discuss #9 from template. ○ The salient points in this is that we would want to leave about \$50,000.00 available for the interim superintendent to move with money and that may not be enough. ○ If the plan is accepted by at least 60%, the

	<p>membership of the RSU shall include the SAUs that approved the plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SAD 74 could by itself form an RSU? This is up for interpretation. ○ Where will the \$50,000.00 come from? ○ Maybe this money could come from the state? ○ The lawyer, his suggestions: New school board would need to be paid, insurances, etc. November, 2008 could be elected new members. New board can't assess until they come into being. ○ Some questions about power of new board and when/what it can do before it becomes "official". ○ New board would be able to hire superintendent, contracts, and new warrants. ○ Great communication will be a must between all entities. ○ Can a current board member sit on the new board? Yes. ○ The vote that we are going to take is not just a vote on the individual items, it is the planning document that the RSU must honor when it is created. Over time, it can be changed by the RSU board.
COST SAVINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No cost savings projected for first three years or more. • \$50,000.00 start up costs may not be enough. • When the commissioner made promises about this being cost savings, this was false information. • Some speculate that savings MAY BE 4-5 years out. • It would take over \$700,000.00 in net change to go up or down one mil. Hard to make any significant impact without something drastic like school closure. • Additional costs could be shared by student count. • If SAD 13 vote no, or SAD 74 votes no, what happens? • Facilitator replied that there is no definitive answer to this question at this time? If your community says no, there will be penalties. • Who will be assessing the monies necessary to run the schools? • An interim procedure would be established.

OTHER DISCUSSION POINTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitator suggests we must communicate with our legislators. • Discussion around contracts was held and how they may all meld together at some point down the road. • Transition is the next topic: Where does the \$50,000.00 come from?
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6. To see what action the Regional Planning Committee will take on the proposed committee recommendations?

- Motion: To create an RSU board as small as legally possible with a minimum of one member per community and a weighted vote based on population.
- Motion by Carleton Barnes and seconded by Larry Malloy to approve the motion listed above.

Vote is unanimous – 20-0

- Property is suggested that we table it for the next meeting. Agreed to table. Allen asks for superintendents to be at the next meeting. It was agreed to set a meeting date.

Consensus of Group to Table until next meeting.

- Motion: To include existing contracts as listed and to allow additions if new contracts are discovered or negotiated.

Consensus of Group to Table until next meeting.

- Agreed to send all information to Ken to be added and superintendents will meet. We will vote on completed/revised list at next meeting.

Consensus of Group to Table until next meeting.

- Motion: to approve hiring a person to look at our financials to come up with alternatives for cost sharing.
- Mitchell motioned and Heather seconded.

Vote = unanimous.

- Cost savings and transition will be tabled until the next meeting.

Consensus of Group to Table until next meeting.

7. Other

- Facilitator will re-mail the process for the re-submission of updated plans to all superintendents.
- Superintendents will meet to review contracts
- Superintendents will meet with Property Committee as soon as possible.
- **Next meeting will be held on April 30th, 2008 @ 6:30 p.m. at The Forks Town Hall.**

**UPPER SOMERSET COUNTY (RSU 24) REGIONAL
PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

June 25, 2008 ~ Forest Hills High School Library

1. Welcome

- Non-voting members present were:
 - i. Regina Campbell – MSAD 74 Superintendent of Schools
 - ii. Ken Smith – MSAD 13 Superintendent of Schools
 - iii. Heather Perry – MSAD 12 Superintendent of Schools
 - iv. Denise Plante – MSAD Asst. Superintendent/Principal
 - v. Martha Witham – Pleasant Ridge Superintendent of Schools
 - vi. Bill Cummings – MDOE Facilitator
- Special thanks to Denise Plante for the wonderful snacks and cucumber water provided! ☺

2. Approval of Minutes

- Clarence Begin motions and Harald Moore seconds to approve minutes from the April 30, 2008 RPC meeting held in The Forks.

Vote- Unanimous

3. Report of Facilitator:

- Drummond and Woodsum workshop recently held was very informative.
 - Drummond and Woodsum workshop recently held was very informative.
 - May not have to transfer properties into the new RSU? Ownership can be maintained by communities, and used as long as the RSU desires to use them.
 - Don't have to transfer the title.
 - Gave examples of how creative the cost sharing formula could be for over EPS dollars
 - John Skien is doing an enrollment projection
 - Jake Clockodile is working on cost sharing
 - If an RPC prepares a proposal for its voters, those communities that approved the referendum would not be subject to penalties. This is NOT TRUE. Everyone is subject to penalties.

A BRIEF PAUSE WAS TAKEN AT THIS JUNCTURE TO GO AROUND THE TABLE AND RE-INTRODUCE EVERYONE AS THERE WERE SOME NEW FACES AT THE TABLE.

- Discussion continued. There were questions around the plan. Facilitator noted that we should be really careful about alternatives.
- Review of Commissioners comments regarding MSAD 12 and private and special legislation.
- Clarification regarding Madison as well. There has been no current contact.
- Martha explained AOS. It was explained that this was discussed at last meeting we discussed, and the RPC didn't think it was something to move forward with.
- Motion was made by gentleman from MSAD 13 to stay with development of RSU. Seconded by Larry.
- Discussion ensued. .. someone mentioned we need to have some sort of a choice for smaller communities. Also, where is the educational discussion?
- Comment was made that the AOS sounds exactly like what we trying to do before all of this started.
- Vote = 10 against 6 in favor of the motion to keep with RSU.

4. Reports from Committees:

Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A print-out was handed out to all present showing the new configuration of the RSU board using the 5% differential. • A suggestions was made to change a majority of votes needed to take action to making it a two-thirds majority to take action for the RSU board. Rationale being that it might make smaller communities feel like they had more of a say in the RSU board. • Motion made by Heather (West Forks) and seconded by Clarence to use the two-thirds figure. Motion passed by a majority vote of those present.
Property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Still missing some information from one unit. • Ken Smith will continue to try and get this missing

	information and report back at next RPC meeting.
Contracts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looks good.
Transition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salary Accruals not discussed, but will need to be at next RPC meeting. • How to elect interim secretary, vote in new RSU board members, and develop first budget was discussed. • Transition committee agreed to meet and develop new language for this section and report it back via e-mail and at next RPC meeting.
Cost Savings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Still none • Ken Smith explained valuation sheet that was handed out showing 7 year trends. • Ken Explained that if the percent increase on valuation exceeds state average, that unit will get "hit" as well as if you lose students. • This year's state average was 11% • Ken is sharing this information with Jake Clockodile who will work on developing cost sharing scenarios for our RPC to review and vote upon, hopefully at next meeting. • Questions were raised regarding how communities that were under the 2 mil minimum would contribute to the RPC? • It was suggested that the next RPC meeting be spent

	entirely on the conversation of cost sharing between our various units and how that might work in detail.
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- It was agreed by the group that we were shooting for a January 20 referendum date.

5. **Next meeting** – No date was set as Ken Smith needs to get ahold of Jake Clockodile regarding his availability. Once Jake suggests some dates, we will organize the next meeting around his schedule so that he may present his findings regarding Cost Sharing. **Location was set for Solon Elementary School** with a date/time to be determined as soon as Mr. Smith can arrange with Mr. Clockodile.

Regional Planning Committee

#24

TO: Reorganization Planning Committee #24
FROM: Kenneth Smith, Ed.D.
DATE: July 16, 2008
RE: Minutes of RPC Meeting of July 15, 2008

MINUTES

In Attendance: Dr. Kenneth Smith - *MSAD #13 & MSAD #74*; Dr. Regina Campbell - *MSAD #74*; Bill Cumming, *Facilitator*; Elaine Aloes - *Solon*; Larry Malloy - *Bingham*; Carleton Barnes - *Bingham*; Judy Robertson - *Solon*; Melissa Miller - *Embden*; Donald Bean - *Moscow*; Tammy Murray - *Anson*; James Manzer - *Embden*; Mitchell Quint - *North Anson*; Douglas Cahill - *North Anson*; Alan DuPlessis - *Jackman*; Sterling F. Reed - *Moose River*; Harold K. Moore - *Moose River*; Brian Malloy - *Bingham*; Mike Carver - *Moscow*; David Robinson - *Pleasant Ridge*; Clarence Begin - *Moose River*; Tracy Lesperance - *Embden*; Andrea Reichert - *New Portland*

1.) WELCOME

Bill Cumming, Facilitator, called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

2.) TO SEE IF THE COMMITTEE WILL VOTE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 25, 2008

MOTION by Clarence Begin seconded by Mitchell Quint to approve the Minutes of the June 28, 2008, Regional Planning Committee #24 Meeting.

MOTION carried by unanimous consent

3.) HEAR REPORT FROM THE FACILITATOR, BILL CUMMING

Discussion on penalty will stand.

MOTION by Mitchell Quint seconded by _____ to move to Agenda Item #6.

MOTION carried by unanimous consent

6.) EXPLANATION OF COST SHARING OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE RPC - DR. JAKE CLOCKEDILE

Discussion on how to cost share with MSAD #13, MSAD #12, and MSAD #74. Jake Clockedile is putting together a cost-sharing formula for the proposed RSU. Dr. Clockedile will have these exact figures for all members available before the next RPC meeting. This agenda item will be included on the agenda for the next meeting.

**7.) REVIEW OF FINANCIAL DATA SUPPLIED BY RPC SCHOOL SYSTEMS AND DOE --
DR. JAKE CLOCKEDILE**

The financial data was reviewed.

**8.) TO SEE WHAT ACTION, IF ANY, THE BOARD WILL TAKE ON APPROVING A
COST SHARING FORMULA TO BE INCLUDED IN THE RPC PLAN**

Jake Clockedile will continue to work on this data.

**4.) DISCUSS A REQUEST FROM THE S.A.D. #59 BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO JOIN RPC
#24**

The request from MSAD #59 to join RPC #24 was discussed.

**5.) TO SEE WHAT ACTION THE COMMITTEE WILL TAKE ON THE REQUEST BY
S.A.D. #59 TO JOIN RPC #24**

MOTION by Jim Manzer seconded by Tammy Murray to invite the MSAD #59 Board of Directors to the next RPC #24 meeting to hear the updated financial information with and without MSAD #59, and to have MSAD #59 present a case for including MSAD #59 in the proposed Regional School Unit #24.

MOTION carried 13 - 5

9.) SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES

The Transition Committee discussed their progress. The Transition Committee will choose an Interim Superintendent and Interim Assistant Superintendent.

No further Sub-Committee reports.

10.) SCHEDULE NEXT RPC MEETING

The next RPC #24 Meeting will be Tuesday, August 5, 2008, at 6:30 p.m. at Moscow Elementary School in Bingham.

11.) ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

UPPER SOMERSET COUNTY (RSU 24) REGIONAL
PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

August 5, 2008 ~ Moscow Elementary School

1. Welcome

- Non-voting members present were:
 - i. Regina Campbell –Caratunk & the Forks Superintendent of Schools
 - ii. Ken Smith – MSAD 13 & MSAD 74 Superintendent of Schools
 - iii. Heather Perry – MSAD 12 Superintendent of Schools
 - iv. Denise Plante – MSAD Asst. Superintendent/Principal
 - v. Martha Witham – Pleasant Ridge Superintendent of Schools
 - vi. Bill Cummings – MDOE Facilitator
 - vii. Mike Gallagher – MSAD 59 & 53 Superintendent of Schools
 - viii. 3 Representatives from MSAD 59 School Board
 - ix. There was an additional 18 members of the public in the audience who were non-voting members.
- Due to the increase of new members present, time was allocated to reintroduce one another.
- Mr. Cummings took a moment or two to remind individuals present of our group operating norms and expectations regarding how we interact with one another.
- Meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by RPC chair
- Special thanks to Linda MacKenzie and MSAD 13 for the wonderful snacks provided! ☺

AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS:

- Mike Gallagher, Superintendent of Schools MSAD 59, came prepared with a one page document entitled: "Potential Educational Program Enhancements from Reorganization" which he reviewed with the RPC members present. (SEE ATTACHED)

2. Approval of Minutes

- Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the July 25th meeting held in Jackman, Maine.

Vote- Unanimous

- There was some question regarding how minutes were distributed. There were some RPC members who have not

been getting them via email or snail mail. RPC chair agreed to look into this and make sure materials were sent out AT LEAST ONE WEEK prior to the next meeting to all RPC members.

Motion was made to get information out to all RPC members at least one week in advance of each meeting.

Motion was seconded. **Vote=Unanimous**

3. Report of Facilitator:

- Mr. Cummings reported out that there was now some clarity on the issue of whether or not penalties will be assessed to units who voted to join a region, but because other units didn't reciprocate were unable to. Basically, it comes down to any unit who is not in compliance with the law after Jan. 27, 2009 (meaning has voted to join and actually created a regional school unit) Will be assessed penalties for the following year.
- There may be some maneuverability for the Commissioner to step in, but at this point this is the information coming from the Department on this issue.

4. Report of Financial Information (Jake Clockedile):

- Several cost sharing options were presented: One set showed MSAD 59 as part of the unit, one set did not. **(SEE ATTACHED)**
- Both sets of financials presented showed a 3 year "phase-in" process and used four key indicators:
 - i. Student population
 - ii. Valuation
 - iii. Percent of add'l local funds
 - iv. Percent of total budget
- Jake stated that most RPC's are including a section in their plans that require that in year 3 the Rsu board will examine the cost sharing formula to see if it needs to be changed to perform more equitably.
- Jake stated that two things in any cost sharing formula must be clear: 1) what the cost sharing plan is and how it works/functions and 2) method of changing it.
- Jake acknowledged that the financials he is sharing tonight only deal with Additional local monies. They do not deal with Federal funds (which can not be part of the cost sharing formula) and they do not deal with funds located within EPS.
- Question was asked about who makes decisions about how this formula is changed later on. Answer: The RSU Board and voters of the region.
- Overall figures show MSAD 74 taking large hits in either scenario.
- Jake talked about another RPC's work to mitigate these shifts and create a "safety net". The RPC he referred to looked at each community's total local tax effort. The RPC said that if any community saw a shift of more

than 2% (increase) that community could only keep 1/2 of that amount, the remainder would go back into a "pot" used to offset other community's losses. Jake agreed to look into this further for our region for the next scheduled RPC meeting.

- A few mistakes were found, and corrected on the sheets as we went. Jake will send out corrected copies.
- Conversation then shifted to a discussion of everyone "moving up" to MSAD 59's salary schedule and the potential impacts of this move on other units within the region. It was made clear that this could have a dramatic increase in costs to other units.

5. Decision to allow MSAD 59 to Join RSU 24:

- It was shared that we have just now seen a lot of information tonight and that it would be difficult to make an informed decision on this item without having some time to more thoroughly review materials.
- Motion was made to NOT vote to allow Madison to join tonight, but to postpone that vote until the next scheduled meeting. Motion was seconded.
- Discussion ensued. Many were frustrated that there wouldn't be enough time to digest information necessary to make an informed decision tonight. Others were frustrated that this decision should have been made a year ago. It was also mentioned that the goal of these cost sharing formulas is to create a situation whereby there are "no losers" so why would we not want MSAD 59 in the group if this is the case.
- Vote was taken. Motion carried by a vote of 13 in favor and 8 opposed.

6. Reports from Committees:

Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new print out was shared that showed several possibilities for board configurations with MSAD 59 included • (SEE ATTACHED) • One RPC member pointed out that Governance should be paid closer attention to as the cost sharing can change per their decision in the future.
Property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new report
Contracts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new report
Transition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefly discussed that some were frustrated regarding

	<p>confusion from DOE on how this should take place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difference between “secretary” and “interim superintendent” and “asst. interim superintendent” and what their roles should/would be. • There was a great deal of discussion around how the timelines are too close. ... not enough time to elect new board and prepare for operational date of RSU on July 1, 2009. • Discussion around how budget development for 09-10 should proceed in each unit? • Suggestion was made to compile a list of all the penalties for the region. • Mr. Cummings agreed to get clarification from the DOE on powers that can be given to a “transitional board” and how one could be created, etc. • He will have this information for the next meeting. • This item was tabled until next meeting.
Cost Sharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jake’s reports (see above minutes) • Jake will have new numbers ready for our next meeting.

- Motion was made to add an agenda item to all remaining meetings on the topic of “Educational Excellence”. Motion was seconded.

Vote=Unanimous

7. **Next meeting** – Date was set for August 19 @ 6:30 p.m. at Moscow Elementary School.

RPC 24 Meeting Minutes

**September 2, 2008
Moscow Elementary School
Moscow, ME**

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by chair Elaine Aloes

The minutes of August 19, 2008 were approved.

It was reported that MSAD #13, MSAD #74, Pleasant Ridge Plantation, Caratunk, The Forks, and Dennistown approved MSAD 59 joining the RSU

Dr. Smith explained the process of approving a Plan for consideration by the voters. He suggested using the basic SAD 59/SAD 53 Plan that was previously approved by legal council and DOE with the understanding the RPC would address each question and the answers might be different.

A list of physical assets and valuation for all districts will be collected & distributed.

Mike Gallagher read questions 2 and 3 –

Mrs. Witham asked if the Committee planned to hear the entire Plan before commenting or take questions by individual section?

Mr. Gallagher responded yes

Mrs. Witham asked for a voting requirement that the Board must have 2/3 of the members present and 2/3 of the weighted vote present before the Board can vote.

Discussion which led to 2/3 of weighted vote (12 directors, 2/3 of the members).

Once adopted, only 10% of voters can overturn any item included in the “Plan”

Mr. Brian Malloy asked if schools would be returned to the towns if closed under the RSU?

Ken – The answer was normally yes. However, the legal documents that controlled the original transaction would have to be considered i.e. if there were any transfer stipulations in the deed.

Mrs. Aloes asked if we should add speaker phone or technology for a means of communication for our RPC planning committee?

Mrs. Witham thought that body language and expressions are telling and you couldn't see someone if they voted over the phone. She felt teleconferences do not lend themselves to full participation

Group decided only present members should vote.

Under A – Take out secret ballot

Weather issue – Heather Sylvester suggested meetings should be cancelled if the weather is bad

If school is cancelled (in any school), cancel RPC meeting

Original motion was surfaced and passed – 2/3 majority of voters present to pass a vote

Question #4 – all approved

Question #5 – All property will become “absorbed” by RSU – all property will be listed in Plan for the RPC

RSU closes a school – must include language to address ownership of property

Facilities report – when will it get done? – depends on the proposal by the engineering firm, unsure as of this date

Brian – If a school closes would it go back to the town? – unsure, depends on the legal documents

Motion on Question 5 as written – yes – all, opposed none

Question 6 – pg. A – Change July 1, 2008 to July 1, 2009 – all approved

Question 7 – Table until next meeting

Meeting dates: September 10, 17, 24 and Oct. 9

Joint Board Meeting suggested

Meeting adjourned

Next meeting will be in Solon Elementary School on September 10 at 6:30 p.m.

RPC 24 Meeting Minutes

**September 10, 2008
Solon Elementary School
Solon, ME**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by chair Elaine Aloes

23 RPC members In Attendance: Elaine Aloes, Elaine Kirk, Jim Manzer, Al French, Douglas Cahill, Michell Quint, Maynard Lagasse, Donald Beane, Brian Malloy, Lawrence Malloy, Carlton Barnes, Fran Sabol, Chuck Taylor, Karon Cobon, Amy Keaton, Andrew Davis, Jennifer Hebert, Joe Miller, David Robinson, Heather Sylvester, Melissa Miller, Tracy Lespearane, Katly Estes

Superintendents in attendance: Mike Gallagher, Martha Witham, Regina Campbell, and Ken Smith

Others In Attendance: three members from the public

RPC participants introduced themselves

The Facilitator (Bill Cumming) requested that participants treat others with respect, one person speak at a time, listening to opinions and offer opinions. Be respectful of those that may have a different opinion.

The minutes of September 2, 2008 were approved, as amended.

The Committee continued working on the Plan. An updated and revised Plan was submitted for consideration by the Board. Items removed from the original Plan were demonstrated by strikethroughs. The modifications to the Plan approved by the Board this evening are shown as strikethroughs and underlines, and additions are demonstrated as underlines. (Please see attachment Plan titled draft 9-10-08). This is the conceptual framework, the data will be adjusted as it is updated.

The RPC approved the Plan for questions 1 through 13-A as noted in the Plan

Cost sharing was discussed. Brian Malloy and Maynard Lagasse noted that the Board had not officially taken a position on cost sharing. Mr. Malloy pointed out that under the (DOE) Jim Rier proposal some communities would benefit financially while others would not. As an example, in Mr. Malloy's opinion, Moscow would have to pay an unfair share of the expenses over EPS whereas Solon would benefit. It was pointed out by several members that the RPC originally agreed that the cost sharing formula should not cause undue financial hardships on any member community. Many members expressed a concern that it would be impossible to develop a cost

sharing formula that worked perfectly for all communities. Consultant Jake Clockedile and Jim Rier also had previously stated that opinion.

13-B Cost Sharing in Regional School Unit

A motion was made and seconded to approve a cost sharing formula that does not permit cost shifts (Jim Rier Plan) in year one, 50% pupils/50% valuation in year two, and 100% valuation in year three. The motion lost 5 yes: 16 no.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt a no cost shift (Jim Rier Plan) for years one and two. Motion passed 17:4

The RPC approved the Plan "in principal" for Question 13-G

The RPC asked to have the last cost sharing document prepared by DOE available at the next meeting.

REORGANIZATION PLAN

SAU Submitting: SAD #59, SAD #74 and SAD #13

Contact Information:

RPC chair:

Elaine Aloes
P.O. Box 174
Solon, ME 04979

Superintendents:

MSAD #59
Michael A. Gallagher
55 Weston Ave.
Madison, ME 04950

MSAD #74 and MSAD #13
Dr. Kenneth Smith
P.O. Box 360
Anson, ME 04911

Pleasant Ridge
Martha Witham
P.O. Box

Dennistown
Jerry White
P.O. Box

The Forks/Caratunk
Dr. Regina Campbell
P.O. Box 360
Anson, ME 04911

Date Originally Submitted by SAU: 2007

Proposed RSU Operational Date: July 1, 2009

The proposed regional school unit includes the following school administrative units:

Maine School Administrative District No. 13, Maine School Administrative District No. 59, Maine School Administrative District No. 74, the plantations of Pleasant Ridge, Dennistown, The Forks, and *the Town of Caratunk*.

2. The size, composition and apportionment of the governing body.

3. The method of voting of the governing body.

Option D **Using Weighted Voting**

The regional school unit board shall be composed of 17 members. Each municipality in the RSU shall elect the following number of its residents to serve on the Board and their votes shall be weighted as follows:

<u>Town</u>	<u>Pop.</u>	<u>% of total</u>	<u># Dir.</u>	<u>Votes each</u>	<u>Total Votes</u>	<u>Initial Terms</u>
The Forks	36	0.28%	1	36	36	2
Caratunk	88	0.67%	1	88	88	1
Moscow	577	4.42%	1	577	577	2
Bingham	990	7.59%	1	990	990	3
Pleasant Ridge	90	0.69%	1	90	90	2
Solon	940	7.20%	1	940	940	1
Embden	913	7.00%	1	913	913	2
New Portland	800	6.13%	1	800	800	3
Anson	2,583	19.79%	2	1,291	2,582	1,3
Madison	4,523	34.66%	4	1,130	4,520	1,1,2,3
Athens	847	6.49%	1	847	847	1
Starks	578	4.43%	1	578	578	2
Brighton Plantation	86	0.66%	1	86	86	3
<hr/>						
	13,051	100.00%	17		13,047	

Voting at all meetings of the Board shall be by hand, voice or roll call, ~~with the exception that the Board may choose, if it desires, to use a secret ballot in electing officers or a candidate to fill an unexpired term.~~ Election of a superintendent shall be by ballot.

Except in cases of unanimous votes, the votes of all members shall be recorded in the minutes. To conduct business at any meeting of the Board at least two-thirds (2/3) of serving members and two thirds (2/3) of the voting power represented by these serving members, must be present to constitute a quorum.

All motions shall be carried ~~or defeated~~ by a majority of weighted votes of those present and voting, BY TWO-THIRDS (2/3RDS) OF THE TOTAL VOTES PRESENT AND A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT, except motions to adjourn to executive session, which shall require the vote of three-fifths (3/5) of the members present and voting and motions requiring two thirds (2/3) majority under Robert's Rules of Order.

Each board member shall serve a 3-year term, except that the initial terms of the members of the first regional school unit board shall be staggered as provided by Section XXXX-40 (see below).

Sec. XXXX-40. Initial staggered terms. Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 1471, subsection 2, the initial directors elected to a regional school unit board of directors shall meet and draw lots for the length of term specified as follows.

1. Municipalities with annual elections. In municipalities with annual elections, 1/3 of the directors serve one-year terms, 1/3 of the directors serve 2-year terms and 1/3 of the directors serve 3-year terms. If the number of directors is not evenly divisible by 3, the first remaining director serves a 3-year term and the 2nd a 2-year term.

2. Municipalities with biennial elections. In municipalities with biennial elections, 1/2 of the directors serve 4-year terms and 1/2 of the directors serve 2-year terms. If the number of directors is not divisible by 2, the remaining director serves a 4-year term.

4. The composition, powers and duties of any local school committees to be created.

No local committees

5. The disposition of real and personal school property.
Issued prior to July 1, 2009

All real property interests, including without limitation land, buildings, other improvements to realty, easements, option rights, first refusal rights, and purchase rights, and all fixtures, of the school administrative units shall be property of the region. The regional school unit board may require such deeds, assignments or other instruments of transfer as in its judgment is necessary to establish the region's right, title and interest in such real property and fixtures.

All other tangible school personal property, including movable equipment, furnishings, textbooks and other curriculum materials, supplies and inventories shall become property of the region as successor of the SAUs.

6. The disposition of existing school indebtedness and lease-purchase obligations if the parties elect not to use the provisions of Section 1506 regarding the disposition of debt obligations.

As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Existing debt" means any bond, note, loan agreement, lease-purchase agreement or other debt instrument issued prior to July 1, 2008 2009 for the purposes of funding public schools, or for refinancing such debt, that remains outstanding at the time of a reorganization pursuant to this chapter. "Existing debt" does not include routine payables or commercial contract obligations.

B. "Original education unit" means:

(1) A previous education unit that has existing debt; or

(2) A municipality that has existing debt incurred on behalf of a previous education unit.

C. "New unit" means a regional school unit created or established pursuant to this chapter.

Bonds, Notes and Lease Purchase Agreements That the Region Will Not Assume. Pursuant to 20-A M.R.S.A. § 1506(4), the region does not assume the following bonds, notes and lease purchase agreements, which shall continue to be paid by the original members of the SAU indicated, and the region shall serve as fiscal agent for the SAU for that purpose:

Note: Include in the following list all bonds, notes and lease purchase agreements that the region will not assume. Include current principal balance as of date indicated. The region will serve as fiscal agent to determine the amount of debt service due, and to charge and collect that debt service from each member of the original SAU in addition to that member's share of the region's expenses.

Name of SAU	Year Issued	Original Principal Amount	Asset Acquired, Constructed or Renovated	Principal Balance as of July 1, 2009	Final Maturity Date
MSAD #59	2000	\$500,000	constructed	\$432,391.18	11/1/21
MSAD #74	2008	75,000	Renovated	62,000	9/2013
MSAD #13			Renovated		

~~New Capital Project Debt that Region Will Issue and Assume.~~ If the voters or other applicable legislative body of an SAU has authorized the issuance of bonds for a school construction or a minor capital project, but the SAU has not issued all of the authorized permanent bonds for that project, the regional school unit board shall issue bonds or notes to finance the completion of that project and to refund any temporary notes that the SAU issued for that project, as required by 20-A M.R.S.A. § 1506(5). With respect to such new project debt, the region shall assume liability to pay the following bonds, notes and lease purchase agreements:

~~Note: Include in this list all New Capital Project bonds, notes and lease purchase agreements authorized by an SAU but not yet issued as of the region's operative date that will be issued by the region and that the region will assume. Include the principal balance to be issued.~~

SAU	Project Description	Principal Amount	Date Authorized by SAU Legislative Body

New Capital Project Debt that the Region Will Issue But Will Not Assume. If the voters or other applicable legislative body of an SAU has authorized the issuance of bonds for a school construction or a minor capital project, but the SAU has not issued all of the authorized permanent bonds for that project, the regional school unit board shall issue bonds or notes to finance the completion of that project and to refund any temporary notes that the SAU issued for that project, as required by 20-A M.R.S.A. § 1506(5). With respect to such new project debt, the region will not assume liability to pay the following bonds, notes and lease purchase agreements:

Note: Include in this list all New Capital Project bonds, notes and lease purchase agreements to be issued by the region but that the region will not assume. Include the principal balance to be issued. The region will serve as fiscal agent to determine the amount of debt service due, and to charge and collect that debt service from each member of the original SAU in addition to that member's share of the region's expenses.

SAU	Project Description	Principal Amount	Date Authorized by SAU Legislative Body
SAD 13			
SAD 59			
SAD 74			

Defaulted Debt is Excluded from Being Assumed. Notwithstanding anything in this Plan to the contrary, except where legally required to do so, the region will not assume any bond, note or lease purchase agreement as to which the SAU is in breach or has defaulted.

Other Debt Not Assumed. Except as provided in this section of the Plan, the region will not assume liability for any bonds, notes or lease purchase agreements issued by an SAU prior to the operative date of the region.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law or any provision of any trust agreement, a new unit may use any sinking fund or other money set aside by the original education unit to pay an existing debt to pay that debt.

A new unit may issue bonds or other debt instruments for the purpose of refinancing or retiring the existing debt of an original education unit. The issuance of such bonds or other debt must be in accordance with applicable procedural requirements, including the procedural requirements of section 1490.

7. The assignment of school personnel contracts, school collective bargaining agreements and other school contractual obligations.

A list of all written individual employment contracts to which each of the existing SAUs is a party is attached as *Exhibit 2*. Pursuant to Section XXXX-43(5), individuals on the list who are employed on the day before the operational date shall become employed by the RSU as of the operational date, and their contracts shall be assumed by the RSU on the operational date. This provision does not prevent the existing SAUs from terminating or nonrenewing the contracts of employees in accordance with applicable law before the operational date of the RSU. The list shall be updated and made final no later than the day before the operational date of the RSU.

A list of all employees of the existing SAUs who do not have written individual employment contracts is attached as *Exhibit 3*. Pursuant to Section XXXX-43(5), individuals on the list who are employed on the day before the operational date shall become employed by the RSU as of the operational date. This provision does not prevent the existing SAUs from terminating employment of the employees in accordance with applicable law before the operational date of the RSU. The list shall be updated and made final no later than the day before the operational date of the RSU.

The duties and assignments of all employees transferred to the RSU shall be determined by the Superintendent of the RSU or his/her designee.

The following collective bargaining agreements listed in Exhibit 3 shall be assumed by the regional school unit board as of the operational date:

All of the employer's rights and responsibilities with respect to collective bargaining shall be fully assumed by the regional school unit board as of the operational date.

A list of all contracts to which the existing SAUs are a party and that may be in effect as of the operational date is attached as *Exhibit 4*. The interim Board of Directors of the RSU will determine whether these contracts are to be assumed.

It is assumed the RSU will assume the contracts listed in Exhibit 4 as of the operational date subject to review and approval of the RSU board. The list of contracts provided in Exhibit 4 is subject to change at any time including changes made anytime by the interim RSU board.

The SAU Board and superintendent shall seek to terminate or negotiate for termination of the following contracts prior to the operational date:

SAU	Contracting Party	Type of Contract	Expiration Date
MSAD 59	Maine State Billing	Medicaid reimbursables	July 1, 2009
MSAD 59	Maine State Billing	Case Management	August 1, 2009
SAD 13	Maine State Billing	Medicaid reimbursables	July 1, 2011
SAD 13	SpEdNet	Case Management	July 1, 2011
SAD 74	Maine State Billing	Medicaid reimbursables	July 1, 2011
SAD 74	SpEdNet	Case Management	July 1, 2011

8. The disposition of existing school funds and existing financial obligations, including undesignated fund balances, trust funds, reserve funds and other funds appropriated for school purposes.

Pursuant to Section XXXX-36(5) the disposition of existing financial obligations is governed by this plan.

Existing financial obligations shall include the following:

- (i) all accounts payable;
- (ii) to the extent not included as accounts payable, any financial obligations which under generally accepted accounting principles would be considered expenses of the SAU for any year prior to the year the RSU becomes operational, whether or not such expenses were budgeted by the SAU in the year the obligations were incurred, including for example summer salaries and benefits; and
- (iii) all other liabilities arising under generally accepted accounting principles that can be reasonably estimated and are probable.

Each SAU shall satisfy its existing financial obligations from all legally available funds. If an SAU has not satisfied all of its existing financial obligations, the SAU shall transfer sufficient funds to the region to satisfy its remaining existing financial obligations, and the regional school unit board shall be authorized to satisfy those existing financial obligations on behalf of the SAU. If the SAU does not transfer to the region sufficient funds to satisfy its existing financial obligations, then to the extent permitted by law, the regional school unit board may satisfy those obligations from balances that the SAU transfers to the region. If the available balances transferred are insufficient to satisfy the SAU's existing financial obligations, or are not legally available for that purpose, the regional school unit board may take any action permitted by law so that all of the municipalities of the region are treated equitably with respect to the unsatisfied existing financial obligations of an SAU. For example, to the extent permitted by law, the regional school unit board may satisfy the unpaid existing financial obligations of an SAU in the same manner and with the same authority as for unassumed debt under the provisions of 20-A M.R.S.A. § 1506(4). Salaries and benefits payable after June 30, 2009 including all summer salaries earned during the 2008-09 school year shall be the responsibility of SAD 59, SAD 74, and SAD 13.

Additionally, to the extent permitted by law, if in the judgment of the regional school unit board it must raise funds from all its members to satisfy existing financial obligations of an SAU, the regional school unit board also shall be authorized to raise additional amounts for the purpose of making equitable distributions (which may be made in the form of credits against assessed local shares of the region's approved budget) to those region members that would otherwise bear costs attributable to unsatisfied existing financial obligations of an SAU for which they had no financial responsibility. The intent of the preceding sentence is that financial responsibility for unsatisfied existing financial obligations of an SAU be borne by its members and not by the other members of the region.

The balance remaining in the SAU's school accounts after the SAU has satisfied existing financial obligations in accordance with this plan shall be paid to the treasurer of the regional school unit, verified by audit and used to reduce that SAU's contribution as provided by Section XXXX-43(4). In this plan, the SAU's shall maintain not less than 50% of the fund balances as of the June 30, 2008 audit in the amounts as follows: MSAD #59 (), MSAD #74 (), MSAD #13 (), Pleasant Ridge (), Dennistown (), The Forks (), and Caratunk () to the next fiscal year; and transfer not less than 50% of the fund balances to the regional school unit.

Transfers of remaining balances may occur within the period specified by Section XXXX-43(4), or, as may be preferable in the case of a district, at any time before the district has closed its accounts and ceased normal operations.

SAUs shall transfer remaining balances of reserve funds to the regional school unit. Unless otherwise provided by applicable law, a transferred reserve fund shall be used in accordance with its original purpose to benefit a school or schools of the transferring SAU. Transferred reserve funds shall be subject to Title 20-A M.R.S.A. § 1491, except that the transfer of funds in a reserve fund or a change in purpose of the fund may only occur in such manner that the funds continue to benefit the members of the SAU that transferred that reserve fund to the region.

SAUs shall transfer remaining balances of scholarship funds to the region. Scholarships shall be limited to the original pool of potential recipients unless otherwise provided by the donor or by applicable law.

SAUs shall transfer trust funds to the region. The regional school unit board shall be deemed the successor trustee for all purposes, except as provided by the trust or by applicable law.

Existing Financial Obligations through June 30, 2008

	Dist. Budget	est. obligations	est. fund balance
MSAD #59	\$	\$	\$ 200,000.00
MSAD #74			
MSAD #13			

NON MAJOR PERMANENT FUNDS JUNE 30, 2008

MSAD #59

SCHOLARSHIPS

<u>Account #</u>	<u>Account name</u>	<u>July 1, 2008 beginning balance</u>
103002181	Blackwell Music CD	\$ 4,756.15
	Blackwell Music	\$ 3,504.71
	Shawn Dean Scholarship	\$ 1,556.26
1285332	Geroge Jacobs Scholarship	\$ 97.44
	Perkins Music	\$ 1,723.30
	MSAD 59 Board of Directors	\$ 1,231.47
SAD 1285299	James Sites Scholarship	\$ 170.75
3008945	John Ferris Scholarship – Book	\$ 1,232.79
1285310	Lyndzy Duprey Scholarship	\$ 306.66
1285321	Leroy Jacobs Jr Athletic Award	\$ 44.61
SAD 3007747	Savoy Scholarship – Book	\$ 6,496.62
	Alexander Richard Investment	\$ 20,077.43
SAD	Preble Scholarship Investment	\$ 440,025.23
SAD	Savoy Scholarship Investment	\$ 764,649.12
Total		<u>\$ 1,245,872.54</u>

FUND BALANCE JUNE 30, 2008

		current balance
MSAD #59	UNDESIGNATED	\$ 880,277.00
MSAD #74	UNDESIGNATED	431,254.00
MSAD #13	UNDESIGNATED	144,736.92

9. A transition plan that addresses the development of a budget for the first school year of the reorganized unit and interim personnel policies.

A. Transition Plan for Budget Development. The regional school unit board shall establish interim rules of procedure and shall elect interim officers who shall serve until officers are elected at a meeting following the operational date of the region.

The regional school unit board shall select a superintendent of schools in accordance with Section 1051 of Title 20-A. During the interim period, the salary, office and other expenses of the superintendent, as well as the cost of the regional school unit board, including insurance, shall be allocated to the school administrative units as provided below.

If a region is formed to become operational as of July 1, 2009, then following the issuance of a certificate of organization by the State Board of Education, the school boards and superintendents of the SAUs within the region shall begin a process for developing proposed budgets for educational programs and services within their SAUs for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009. In developing their proposed budgets, the SAUs shall consider potential cost savings and additional costs that may result from reorganization. The SAUs also shall consider changes in operations that may be necessary in order to reduce costs of administration, special education, building and maintenance and transportation without adversely affecting the educational program. During the months of February and March, the school boards of the SAUs and their superintendents shall conduct joint meetings and budget workshops as necessary to develop a proposed budget for the first operational year of the regional school unit. Specific duties may be assigned to existing personnel with the approval of the employing SAU.

A proposed budget with supporting documentation shall be developed in time for its presentation to and consideration by the initial regional school unit board of directors. The regional school unit board shall complete the budget development process and recommend a budget for consideration by the voters.

The regional school unit board shall propose and approve a recommended budget in accordance with 20-A M.R.S.A. § 1482 for the first operational year for submission to the voters of the region. The budget format, approval procedures and assessments for the regional school unit's first operational year budget shall be in accordance with 20-A M.R.S.A. §§ 1482-1489. The regional school unit board shall have all necessary authority for those purposes. This shall be considered the first year of use of the budget validation referendum process for purposes of determining the continued use of the budget validation referendum process every three years pursuant to Section 1486(1).

The regional school unit board shall be authorized to take all other actions and shall have all other authority provided under state law to prepare for the regional school unit to become operational on July 1 of the first operational year; including the authority to open and maintain accounts, to incur expenses not to exceed \$ 50,000 to be allocated among the regional school units' member SAUs in accordance with their most recent April and October resident pupil count and to file applications for school construction projects and revolving renovation fund loans and other available funding.

B. Transition Plan for Personnel Policies. All personnel policies existing in the previous school

administrative units shall continue to apply to the same employment positions after they become part of the regional school unit. After the operational date, the regional school unit board and superintendent will develop and adopt region-wide policies in accordance with applicable law.

10. Documentation of the public meeting or public meetings held to prepare or review the reorganization plan.

A record of the date, time, location and minutes of all meetings will be documented and minutes of meetings will be attached to the plan as Exhibit 5.

Date of Public Meeting	Time	Location
January 23	6:30 p.m.	Moscow Elementary
August 5, 2008	6:30 P.M.	Moscow Elementary
August 18, 2008	6:30 P.M.	Moscow Elementary
September 2, 2008	6:30 P.M.	Moscow Elementary
September 10, 2008	6:30 P.M.	Solon Elementary

11. How the units that approve the reorganization plan will proceed if one or more of the proposed members of the regional school unit fail to approve the plan.

APPROVED BY TWO OF THE EXISTING SAD'S

If the plan is ~~rejected by one or more SAUs, but is accepted by SAUs representing at least 60% of the average number of resident pupils within all of the SAUs in the proposed region, as measured by the average of the most recent April and October resident pupil counts; and by SAUs representing at least 60% of the aggregate fiscal capacity of the SAU in the proposed region,~~ then in such case the membership of the regional school unit shall include the SAUs that approved the plan; except that the Commissioner may determine the necessity for reapportionment pursuant to 20-A M.R.S.A sec. 1475.

12. An estimate of the cost savings to be achieved by the formation of a regional school unit and how these savings will be achieved.

COST SAVINGS COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Cost Savings Committee consists of Andrea Reichert of New Portland, Heather Sylvester of The Forks, Mike Carver of Moscow, and three superintendents (Heather Perry of SAD #12, Regina Campbell of SAD #74, and Ken Smith of SAD #13). The Committee met on Friday, February 22, in Bingham from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Considerable data was gathered for the meeting which included per pupil costs, school bus cost per mile, per plate meal costs, state property valuations, percent of free and reduced lunches, enrollment data, employee data, employee agreement data, state average employee salary and benefit averages, and a list of required state reports.

Note from the committee: While the formation of the RSU should save money in some areas, it is also true that the formation of the RSU will result in additional costs above the aggregate costs in the previous school administrative units. Although the law does not require that the plan list cost increases as well as savings, an accurate report of anticipated cost savings can only be given by offsetting cost increases against savings.

All of our current school systems are small. By Maine standards the average size school system is approximately 1500 students. Maine has very few large systems and some of those encompass large geographic areas like Oxford Hills (SAD #17) or cities like Portland, Bangor, Lewiston, or Augusta. One of the largest geographic school systems is SAD #3 in Thorndike with fewer than 1500 students.

Small school systems operate differently from large systems. Generally speaking, large systems have more human resources dedicated to limited areas of responsibility. For example, small systems may have special education coordinators working a limited number of days per week whereas larger systems will have directors of special education working full time.

Many functions are currently carried out by multiple people crossing job titles, whereas those functions will be carried out by specified personnel under the new RSU. For example, a superintendent and administrative assistant may share some transportation and food service responsibilities in one system, and a superintendent and secretary may share slightly different responsibilities in another system. The point is smaller systems require personnel to carry out the same responsibilities because the work needs to be accomplished, but there isn't enough work to support a full time position therefore personnel wear many hats.

Financial affairs capture a good deal of a superintendent's time. The clerical support offered by a business office encompasses personnel that handle payroll, accounts payable, and accounts receivable. In addition there are numerous reports required of a superintendent and those reports require gathering data from sometimes unrelated portions of the budget. Completing reports or seeing that those reports are completed on time is a constantly growing demand and it may take several business staff to provide the data.

In SAD #12 the district principal is responsible for all aspects of the job for grades K-12 with all grades housed in one facility. In SAD #13 the district principal is responsible for PK-12 but students are housed in three different facilities. In SAD #74 students are housed in six different

facilities with some teaching-principals, some supervising principals, and some deans of students.

Buildings and grounds and transportation issues will require considerable attention depending on the community. For example, SAD #74 has a full time director of maintenance/ transportation whereas the superintendent in SAD #13 handles buildings/grounds issues and some transportation and food service issues. On the other hand SAD #12 contracts with a private contractor for transportation services and relies on the building principal to address facility problems.

Of note is the issue to travel between facilities. Due to the logistical issues inherent in the proposed RSU, travel expenses should increase for many central office services providers. It is roughly one hour and forty five minutes on a good day from one end of the proposed RSU to the other end.

We have provided these cost savings estimates based on all eight school systems (three SAD's and five plantations) voting to form the RSU. If some school systems vote no, then these estimates will have to be recalculated.

There will be an added cost when the first year business software will have to be modified to accommodate three different budgets, three different teacher agreements, three different support staff agreements, and numerous individual contracts or agreements:

Legal costs should increase the first and second year of operation, primarily due to negotiations. However, that cost should decrease in the third year of operation when one opinion will be sort instead of three requests for the same advice.

Cost savings could be realized in the area of technology within the area of network administration. However, some of those assumptions are based on uniformity of software and hardware and on server compatibility.

We have added a transition manager with the understanding this position will not be needed after the third year of operation. Among the many transition issues, it is essential employees be paid on time and in a manner agreed upon with their former employers. With so many different agreements and contracts in force, it will take considerable time and effort to insure compliance.

We discussed having payroll done by a private agency and determined, that at least at this juncture, the preparation of documents required by such an agency would offset any potential cost savings.

In addressing proposed personnel costs we used state averages provided by MSMA for various categories of employees to estimate the cost of salaries, wages, and benefits for 2009-2010.

Considering the 2007 valuations of the 13 communities in RSU 24 totaled \$700,700,000 one mill on the combined tax rate would require an expenditure or savings of \$700,700.

<u>School systems</u>	<u>2007 valuation</u>
Caratunk	23,500,000
Dennistown	7,000,000

Pleasant Ridge	60,250,000
The Forks	33,650,000
SAD 13	103,100,000
SAD 59	487,900,000
SAD 74	368,900,000
RSU 24	1,084,900,000

Significant savings would not seem to be possible for two reasons: 1. Small systems do not have the services available or the expenses associated with the services to save large sums of money. 2. Savings are realized when large systems combine because of the duplicative services. It takes money to save money! Some federal money will be lost in forming the RSU due to a decrease in the percent of students who qualify for free and reduced lunches.

However, we estimate that the formation of Regional School Unit #24 (RSU 24) will result in the following cost savings during the first three years of operation:

First year – 2009 - 2010:	salaries and benefits current	salaries and benefits 2009-10	cost +/-
Central Office Administration	\$231,241	111,102	- 120,139
Central Office Clerical	\$198,264	210,000	+11,736
Central Office Transition Manager	-0-	50,000	+ 50,000
Estimated savings:			- 58,403
Estimated additional costs:			+60,000
Net savings (or costs):	wash - no net savings projected		

Second year – 2010 - 2011:	
Estimated savings:	
Estimated additional costs:	
Net savings (or costs):	no net savings projected

Third year – 2011 - 2012:	
Estimated savings:	legal
Estimated additional costs:	
Net savings (or costs):	
Total estimated savings (or costs):	net increase due to negotiated agreements

13-A. Plans to reorganize administration, transportation, buildings and maintenance and special education.

The new RSU Board will be developing a reorganization plan for administration, transportation, buildings and maintenance and special education during our budget construction process.

System Administration: One superintendent, one assistant superintendent, two payroll clerks, two accounts payable clerks, one human resource director, two secretaries, and one receptionist.

Transportation: One director of transportation to direct all transportation services. One garage for vehicle service and repairs. Common software to develop routes and schedules.

Special Education: One director and one assistant director for all special education services. Similar software for billing and student accounting.

Buildings and Maintenance: One supervisor of buildings and grounds and six "trade skilled" maintenance personnel.

13-B. Cost Sharing in Regional School Unit

Cost sharing above EPS will be based on no cost shifts in year one and year two.

13-C. Election of initial board of directors.

Within 30 days of the issuance of a certificate of organization for the regional school unit by the State Board of Education, the members of the school boards of the school administrative units within the regional school unit shall conduct a joint meeting for the purpose of electing an interim secretary of the regional school unit and determining a date for the election of the initial board of directors of the regional school unit. The interim secretary shall notify the municipal officers of the member municipalities of the regional school unit of the date of the election. The election shall be conducted in accordance with Title 30-A Chapter 121 of the Maine Revised Statutes, as amended by Section 1473(2) of Chapter 103-A of Title 20-A of the Maine Revised Statutes, except that the election duties of the secretary and board of directors of the regional school unit shall be performed by the interim secretary. The duties of the interim secretary shall include:

- 1) notification of the municipal officers of the date of the election;
- 2) furnishing nomination papers at least 10 days before the deadline for filing nomination papers;
- 3) receipt of completed nomination papers in accordance with 20-A M.R.S.A. §1473;
- 4) preparation and distribution of election ballots in accordance with 20-A M.R.S.A. §1473;
- 5) receipt of town clerk's certification of the results of the voting in each member municipality;
- 6) tabulation of the town clerk's certification of the results of the voting in each municipality;
- 7) accepting any recount petitions that may be filed pursuant to 20-A M.R.S.A. §1473; and

- 8) totaling the votes cast for each candidate and notifying the clerks in each municipality, the candidates, and the Commissioner of Education of the final results of the voting and the names and addresses of the persons elected as directors.

In accordance with 20-A M.R.S.A. §1473(1), the clerk of each municipality within the regional school unit shall forward the name(s) and address(es) of the director(s) elected to represent that municipality to the State Board of Education with such other data with regard to their election as the State Board of Education may require. On receipt of the names and addresses of all of the directors, the State Board of Education shall set a time, place and date for the first meeting of the directors and give notice to the directors in writing, sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, to the address provided by the municipalities.

13-D. Tuition Contracts and School Choice

Students from plantations, unorganized territories, and municipalities within the RSU that were not formerly part of the previous SADs and had "school choice", will be transported by the RSU to the nearest assigned school. Transportation and related costs to any other school will not be the responsibility of the RSU.

THIS SECTION WILL BE COVERED BY A POLICY ALLOWING CHOICE WITH STIPULATIONS

13-E. Claims and Insurance

Disclosure of claims

The parties are unaware of any lawsuits, administrative complaints, due process proceedings, notices of claim or any other claims.

13-F. Vote to submit reorganization plan to Commissioner.

Before submitting a reorganization plan to the Commissioner of Education, the governing body of each school administrative unit shall adopt the following vote:

VOTED: That the provisions included in the school reorganization plan prepared by the *MSAD #59, MSAD #74, MSAD #13, the plantations of Pleasant Ridge, Dennistown, The Forks, and the Town of Caratunk* Reorganization Planning Committee to reorganize *MSAD #59, MSAD #74, MSAD #13, the plantations of Pleasant Ridge, Dennistown, The Forks and the Town of Caratunk* into a regional school unit with an operational date of July 1, 2009, are determined to be necessary within the meaning of Section XXXX-36(5)(M) and that the Superintendent of Schools be, and hereby is, authorized and directed to submit the school reorganization plan to the Commissioner of Education on behalf of this *MSAD #59, MSAD #74 or MSAD #13* on or about October 14, 2008.

13-G. Section for RSUs with fewer than 2,500 students

- (a) Geography, including physical proximity and the size of the current school administrative unit;

MSAD #59, #74, #13 and the plantations of Pleasant Ridge, Dennistown, The Forks, and the Town of Caratunk are located along Kennebec River and the foothills of the Western Mountains. The two largest towns Madison and Anson are across the Kennebec River from one another and the other smaller towns lie within a circumference of approximately FILL IN. From one end of the new RSU the distance is approximately FILL IN miles.

- (b) Demographics, including student enrollment trends and the composition and nature of communities in the regional school unit;

By far the largest towns are Madison (4,592) and Anson (2,565) and are the local service centers for the region. The other communities range in size from slightly more than one thousand to less than one hundred residents. The total student population according to the ED 279 is (FILL IN) of which SAD #59 has (1,031), SAD # 74 has (), SAD #13 has () Pleasant Ridge has (), Dennistown has (), The Forks has () and Caratunk has ().

It would appear that SAD # 59 will continue to experience some student population growth. FILL IN REST

- (c) Economics, including existing collaborations to be preserved or enhanced and opportunities to deliver commodities and services to be maximized;

Adult Education is shared between MSAD #59 and MSAD #54. MSAD #59 currently shares a Physical Therapist, ESL Tutor as well as students transported for extra and co-curricular events.

- (d) Transportation;

- (e) Population density; or

Most communities are rural with the two largest towns being Madison and Anson.

- (f) Other unique circumstances including the need to preserve existing or developing relationships, meet the needs of students, maximize educational opportunities for students and ensure equitable access to rigorous programs for all students.

Exhibit 1

Name of SAU	Year Issued	Original Principal Amount	Asset Acquired, Constructed or Renovated	Principal Balance as of July 1, 2009	Final Maturity Date
MSAD #59	2000	\$500,000.00	constructed	\$ 432,391.18	11/1/21

The Local only Debt July 1, 2009

MSAD #59		\$ 432,391.18
MSAD #13	RENOVATED	
MSAD #74	RENOVATED	

Exhibit 2

Name of SAU	Position type(s)	Date of expiration
MSAD #59	Cafeteria, Computer Techs, Ed	2008
MSAD #59	Techs	2008
MSAD #59	Bus Drivers, Custodians	2012
MSAD #59	Superintendent	2010
MSAD #59	Administrative Assistant	2010
MSAD #59	Director of Support Services	2012
MSAD #59	Director of Special Services	2010
MSAD #59	Bookkeeper	2010
MSAD #59	Payroll Clerk	2010
MSAD #59	MAMHS Principal	2010
MSAD #59	MJr.HS Principal	2009
MSAD #59	MES Principal	2010
MSAD #59	Director of Guidance	2010
MSAD #59	School Nurse	2008
MSAD #59	Maintenance Supervisor	2010
MSAD #59	Computer Facilitator K-12	2008
MSAD #13	Computer Technician	

Exhibit 3

SAU	Positions Included in Bargaining Unit	Next Termination Date
MSAD #59	Teachers	2010
MSAD #59	Administrative Assistants	2010
SAD 13	Teachers	2011
SAD 13	Support Staff	2011
SAD 74	Teachers	2011
SAD 74	Support Staff	2010

Exhibit 4

SAU	Contracting Party	Type of Contract	Expiration Date
MSAD #59	Hasler Mailing/GE Capital Lease	Mail Machine Lease	10/18/08
MSAD #59	US Cellular	Cell Phone	7/31/08
MSAD #59	Modern Pest Services	Pest Control	10/20/08
MSAD #59	Transco Business Technologies	Copier Maintenance/Service	Annual
MSAD #59	Ikon	Copier Maintenance/Service	Annual
MSAD #59	A-Copi Imaging Systems	Copier Maintenance/Service	Annual
MSAD #59	Stanley Elevator Co.	Maintenance-Elevators	Annual
MSAD #59	Bolster's Rubbish Removal	Trash - Athens	Annual
MSAD #59	Three Rivers Disposal	Trash - In Town	June 30, 2009
MSAD #59	MSAD #54	Adult Ed Service	Annual
MSAD #59	MSAD #54	Vocational Assessment	Annual
MSAD #59	Redington Fairview General Hospital	Sports Trainer Service	Annual
MSAD #59	Madison Area Health Center	Physicals	Annual
MSAD #59	Bob's Cash Fuel	Gas/Diesel	Annual
MSAD #59	C.N. Brown	Heating Oil	Annual
MSAD #59	ADS	Accounting/Payroll Software	Annual
MSAD #59	Rediker Software	Admin Plus/Grade Quick Support	Annual
MSAD #59	Transfinder	Transportation Software	Annual
MSAD #59	Verizon	In State Phone Service	Rolling
MSAD #59	Telrite	Long Distance Phone Service	Rolling
MSAD #59	TDS	Phone Service - Athens	Rolling
MSAD #59	Kyes Insurance	Insurances	Annual
MSAD #59	McIntire Business Products	Laminator Service/Product	Annual
MSAD #59	Software	Site Licenses	Annual
MSAD #59	NWEA	Testing	Annual
MSAD #59	Plato Learning, Inc.	Software Maint/Service - MHS	Annual
MSAD #59	A/P Examinations	Testing	Annual
MSAD 13			
MSAD 13			
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Exhibit 5

MSAD #13 BUILDING/LAND VALUES

	<u>SQUARE FOOTAGE</u>	<u>BUILDING VALUE</u>	<u>YEAR OF CONSTRUCTION ACQUISITION</u>
or <u>DATE</u>			
Quimby Middle School	12,258	\$1,559,000	1941
Moscow Elementary School	22,306	\$2,607,000	1953
Upper Kennebec Valley H.S.	34,525	\$4,822,000	1962
Shop	2,004	\$181,000	1962
Storage Building #1	600	\$40,000	2000
Storage Building #2	552	\$39,000	2000
Dugout 1	168	\$1,000	2000
Concession Stand	182	\$11,000	2000
Dugout 2	168	\$1,000	2000
Dugout 3	168	\$1,000	2000
Dugout 1	168	\$1,000	2000

MSAD #59 BUILDING/LAND VALUES

	<u>SQUARE FOOTAGE</u>	<u>BUILDING VALUE</u>	<u>YEAR OF CONSTRUCTION or ACQUISITION DATE</u>
Alternative Education Building	1200	\$ 93,808.00	1971
Athens Elementary School	20400	\$ 1,630,784.00	1983
Storage Building - Athens	680	\$ 51,977.00	1990
Bus Garage #1 (old)	400	\$ 25,461.00	1992
Bus Garage #2	3000	\$ 215,250.00	1997
Madison Elementary School	41585	\$ 5,330,000.00	2001
Madison Area Memorial High School	61254	\$ 3,960,479.00	1988
Storage Building - MHS	580	\$ 43,376.00	1984
Madison Junior High School	62340	\$ 4,892,357.00	1970
Administration Building	6560	\$ 524,181.00	1995
Starks Elementary School	26229	\$ 2,096,724.00	1975
Rt. 148 Land	8.8 Acres	\$ 30,000.00	2003
Rt. 148 Land	3.753 Acres	\$ 30,000.00	2004

MSAD #74 BUILDING/LAND
VALUES

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth Smith

RPC 24 Meeting Minutes

October 2, 2008

Moscow Elementary School

Moscow, ME

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by chair Elaine Aloes.

18 RPC Members In Attendance: Elaine Aloes, Donald Beane, Mitchell Quint, Douglas Cahill, Larry Malloy, Brian Malloy, Carleton Barnes, Elaine Kirk, Bob Hagopian, Al French, Chuck Taylor, Judy Robertson, Fran Sabol, Amy Keaton, Jennifer Hebert, Heather Sylvester, and Tracy Lesperance.

Superintendents In Attendance: Kenneth Smith, Michael Gallagher, Martha Witham, and Regina Campbell

Others In Attendance: Facilitator Bill Cumming and five members of the public

The RPC participants introduced themselves.

The minutes of September 3, 2008 were approved unanimously.

The RPC reviewed comments and suggestions on the Plan from Drummond Woodsum & McMahon. School systems that have accrued summer salaries will get a "credit" in the same manner as other remaining balances.

The new financial template that does not include SAD #12 was discussed. Michael Gallagher passed out a sheet that shows the comparison of adjusted cost sharing values. Concern was raised over Pleasant Ridge being the only district that would have to pay more than they did last year. Martha Witham asked if there was a way to balance the new cost sharing values so that Pleasant Ridge would not have to pay more.

The RPC discussed revisions that need to be made on the Plan.

On page #2 of the Plan Dennistown needs to be added to the list and "Plantation" should be included after "Pleasant Ridge".

Clarification was made on question #5 (disposition of real and personal school property). The intent was that all towns and plantations keep ownership of their property, including buses.

Position contracts were discussed and the existence of a contract does not mean that if there is a reduction in force the contract will be honored. If you don't have a position you don't have to create one for all employees except superintendents which are specifically addressed in the consolidation law. According to Facilitator Bill Cumming, positions with the longer contract periods will not automatically be assumed. For example, a person with a yearly contract will have the same chance at a position as someone with a three-year contract. This will be handled according to the labor laws.

Non-major permanent funds such as scholarships will be retained within current SAUs and managed by the SAU to which they apply.

13-D will have clarified wording stating that the RSU board will have the option to place students (who have school choice) in schools that do not fall within the RSU. A final plan will be presented to the school boards for voting.

Michael Gallagher suggested removing Exhibit 1 as it is duplicated within the plan.

A correction was made on Exhibit 5. Quimby Middle School was built in 1952 rather than 1941.

A motion was made by Regina Campbell and seconded to thank Dr. Smith for all his above and beyond work on the Plan.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Plan. Motion passed 12:0:2 with two members abstaining.

There will be meetings in January in which speakers will give information to the public who will be voting on the Plan. Each district will be presenting the same information, the separate meetings in each district will be for the travel convenience of the people. It was strongly suggested that each district have their own local presenter for the informational meetings with two superintendents, Dr. Smith and Mr. Gallagher, present at each meeting. The meetings will be held January 13th (SAD 59), 14th (SAD 74), and 15th (SAD 13) at 7:00 p.m. There will also be a general mailing that outlines the plan in the simplest terms. General mailings will go out in November and January.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

No more meetings will be held unless the attorneys make changes to the Plan that need to be approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Ryder

SAD 74/SAD 13 RPC Minutes

**March 9, 2009
Solon Elementary School
Solon, ME**

Committee members in attendance: Brian Malloy, Pauline LaGasse, Norman Dionne, Jimmy Mathieu, Ellen Giberson, Dwight Barron, Eugene Hutchins, Mitchell Quint, Andrew Davis, and Wayne Rugh

Others in attendance: Tammy Conners, Jean Butler, Kenneth Coville, Mary Keenan, Grace Cram, Linda MacKenzie, Kenneth Smith, and new Solon school board member.

Andrew Davis opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone. Committee members introduced themselves.

Mr. Davis explained the purpose of the joint committee: To develop a "modified" reorganization plan to submit to the voters.

Upon proper motion and second Mitchell Quint was elected chair of the new RPC Committee.

Upon proper motion and second Brian Malloy was elected vice-chair of the new RPC Committee.

Copies of the original plan were distributed.

A timeline for meeting the legislative deadlines for forming a new Regional School Unit by July 1, 2009 were distributed. This timeline was developed by Jennifer Pooler of the Department of Education. State imposed penalties were discussed and the financial impact on both Districts explained. Never the less, the Committee felt it would not be prudent to attempt to meet the suggested timeline as it did not allow adequate time to properly inform the public and it did not allow for any unforeseen problems along the way.

Upon proper motion and second the Committee voted to use Roberts Rules of Order revised in the conduct of their business.

Upon proper motion and second the Board voted to develop a modified RSU Plan and present it to the voters SAD 74 and SAD 13 through a referendum vote with said plan to become effective July 1, 2010.

Committee members raised the following concerns for the Committee to consider in the new RSU plan:

- a. no increased costs to communities for joining the RSU
- b. maintain current secondary schools for a minimum of five years
- c. board members to be paid the maximum allowable under state law for all meetings
- d. specify that regular RSU Board meetings will be rotated between SAD 13 and SAD 74 locations
- e. weighted vote vs non-weighted vote for RSU Directors

Upon proper motion and second the Board voted that it would take a majority of voters in each District to approve the Plan. The last proposed Plan only required two of the three SADs to approve the Plan.

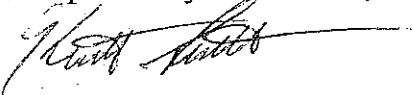
The Committee requested the Superintendent to review the old plan and remove all unnecessary data, including any reference to school units other than SAD 13/SAD 74, and to update the Plan where appropriate. The revised Plan would be made available to Committee members before the next meeting for their review and suggestions.

The Committee requested the Superintendent confirm with the state when the timeline begins for submitting the "modified" Plan to ensure a July 1, 2010 start date.

The Committee set Wednesday, March 18 at 7:00 p.m. at Valley High School in Bingham as the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. Kenneth Smith

Regional Planning Committee Meeting (SAD 74 and SAD 13)

**Valley High School
Bingham, ME**

MINUTES March 18, 2009

Committee Members in Attendance: Dwight Barron, Mitchell Quint, Andrew Davis, G. Wayne Rugh, Eugene Hutchins, Brian Malloy, Norman Dionne, Bonnie Atwood (alternate), Pauline Lagasse, and Jimmy Mathieu

Others in Attendance: Kenneth Smith, Tammy Conners, Carleton Barnes, Linda Hunnewell, Geraldine Morrill and Sandy Tremblay.

Mitchell Quint, RPC Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

- 1.) Mr. Quint welcomed everyone to the meeting and committee members introduced themselves.
- 2.) The committee began reviewing the "modified" plan which they had received prior to the meeting. Some issues and concerns discussed during the meeting were:

How would administrative costs, Superintendent salary, board expenses be distributed? EPS provides some funding for such expenses and locals cover the balance approved by budget process by using the approved RSU cost sharing formula. There will be one budget for SAD 13 & SAD 74 expenses after the RSU is formed.

What if one "district" in the RSU wants to spend a large amount of money on a repair or capital project? The RSU Board would consider the request and if approved, add it to the RSU budget. RSU communities would pay their respective share of the State/local expenditures plus the additional local shares. The same applies to decreases (closing a school was given as an example) in expenses. The cost savings would be distributed to all RSU communities. Closing schools before consolidation would have the greatest impact on individual SAUs.

Could sports teams be consolidated if numbers dropped significantly in any high school? Dr. Smith explained that schools could petition the Maine Principals Association to form one team but that combined enrollments would determine the classification. If one team offers a sport and the other does not, it is possible to have one school sponsor the activity and both schools participate, again with MPA approval.

The process for closing a school was discussed in general terms. If a school board votes to stop sending students to a school because it is no longer needed, the towns sending students to that school would vote in a referendum to either close the school or keep the school open and pay the additional annual costs on top of their regular "district" assessments.

Mr. Mathieu reported that about 75% of the citizens who were in attendance at the Moscow town meeting would vote NO on any consolidation plan presented to them. He went on to say that Bingham's voters were probably not large enough to pass a vote all by themselves. Mr. Malloy responded that if something isn't done and soon, the town of Bingham may be forced to disorganize for financial reasons. He went on to say the list of unpaid taxes in Bingham is staggering.

Mrs. Lagasse reported that Moscow voters feel that if consolidation takes place, they will not have enough voting power against SAD 74. Consolidation was supposed to only effect central office administration but it has snowballed to touch upon other matters that they do not want to lose control of.

It was reported that the SAD 13 Board has begun talking about cost saving measures, including reducing some programs or possibly closing an elementary school.

Some ideas on how to better sell the new plan emerged: Public hearings in both Moscow and Bingham, door-to-door visits, and visits to community groups to present the plan. Creating better informed citizens can only help in the decision-making process. We can develop a plan that attempts to respond to citizen concerns and yet addresses all of the elements in the law. Mr. Davis said our job is to develop a plan that improves educational opportunities for students and saves money. In the end the voters can decide.

The financial implications for not consolidating were discussed: annual State imposed penalties, lost state revenue derived from penalties, and other considerations. In addition, the State will contribute up to \$25,000 towards ADS software set-ups, and assist with the cost of a facilities study.

The new federal stimulus package was discussed. Mr. Dionne warned that the stimulus package was a double edged sword. It provides the opportunity for school systems to keep spending and only puts off the work that needs to be done until the money runs out. Dr. Smith reinforced this concern that the federal money is a short term stimulus and should not be used to solve long term problems. The Commissioner of Education warned about the same thing only she used the words "cliffhanger" to imply that we should not use the money in areas where we don't plan on replacement dollars when the stimulus goes away.

A seven member Board had been discussed which was what was left over from the original fifteen member Board when SAD 74, SAD 13, SAD 59, Pleasant Ridge, Caratunk, The Forks, and Dennistown were involved. Several members expressed concern that a seven (7) member Board might be too small while others thought seven was good number. Wayne Rugh suggested that most Boards of Selectmen operate with between three and five members and have for many years. The majority seemed to favor an RSU Board with fourteen or fifteen members. Mr. Quint had previously presented a weighted board scenario to the group for consideration. Mr. Malloy was

not sure that plan would be accepted by the State, but that he was aware several have been approved by the State which he thought were not legal.

- 3.) Mr. Quint, Mr. Malloy, Mrs. Franzose, and Dr. Smith met with Jim Rier of DOE last Friday to discuss various cost sharing formulas used by other successful RSUs. The purpose of the trip was to get clarification on what "additional local costs" for the new RSU would look like and suggestions for a new cost sharing formula. It appears the RPC is free to recommend cost sharing in any way the group sees fit. Dr. Smith distributed an Excel chart which demonstrated each towns most recent two year average for additional local costs for consideration. These percentages could be adopted by the new RSU to apply to the cost sharing component or "additional local costs" only. Copies of RSU 21's cost sharing wording which used the two year average method were distributed for consideration. Some suggested changes would be to change the percentages for any additional local above the normal two year average to possibly a 50:50 split, 50% valuation and 50% students. No matter what the cost sharing formula, there needs to be some mechanism to address dips in State subsidies to keep local assessments tolerable.
- 4.) The group discussed additional elements that might be added to the "modified" plan:
 - Annual budget meetings should rotate between the two current districts, e.g. Bingham and Anson.
 - Any savings should be put down on paper. With the proposed RSU group being a lot smaller than the first time, the savings will be different. Some of the cost savings have already been realized by both districts during the Inter-Local Agreement. (Superintendent, Special Education, Food Service, Adult Education, and Maintenance/Transportation) With the addition of technology next year, the savings would seem to cover all required elements in the State law.
 - Under Section 4-A of the plan, a simple majority is all that will be needed to pass a vote. No need for all of the confusing wording and the previous 2/3 requirement.
- 5.) Mr. Quint and Mr. Malloy will work on getting a voting formula together for the groups review.
- 6.) Next Meeting will be April 8, 2009 at 7 p.m. at the Solon Elementary School.
- 7.) The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Conners

Regional Planning Committee Meeting (SAD 74 and SAD 13)

Solon Elementary School
Solon, ME

MINUTES April 8, 2009

Committee Members in Attendance: Dwight Barron, Mitchell Quint, Andrew Davis, G. Wayne Rugh, Eugene Hutchins, Brian Malloy, Norman Dionne, Ellen Giberson, Pauline Lagasse

Others in Attendance: Kenneth Smith, Tammy Conners, Jean Butler

Mitchell Quint, RPC Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

- 1.) Mr. Quint welcomed everyone and committee members introduced themselves.
- 2.) The committee received minutes of the March 18, 2009 RPC meeting held at Valley High School. **Upon motion by Dwight Barron and second by Andy Davis the Committee voted by unanimous consent to approve the Minutes of the RPC Meeting of March 18, 2009.**

Mitch Quint explained the work he and Brian Malloy had done to design the newly proposed Voting System. A 15 member board is proposed. The hope is that the larger board will produce more discussion on issues and also make it easier to reach a quorum. A possible negative would be that it may be harder to reach any decision with more people on the board.

Upon motion by Andy Davis and second by Eugene Hutchins the Committee voted by unanimous consent to accept the proposed Voting System as part of the new plan document.

Dr. Smith reviewed the new Cost Sharing language that was inserted in the plan document. This is the wording used by RSU#10 in their final consolidation plan. Brian Malloy felt that with this wording, SAD #13 would be paying too much. There was disagreement between committee members on just how the wording worked. Dr. Smith will call the Superintendent from the district who wrote the wording to clarify. An example will be used to demonstrate the wording effect on the proposed RSU.

Tuition revenue is built into both the SAD #13 and SAD #74 budgets. However, SAD #13 has much more tuition revenue each year than SAD #74.

Both Districts' Financial Obligations will be updated in the plan as of 6/30/09. Also, any remaining balances at 6/30/10 will go back to each Town in the District to offset their 2010/11 Local Share.

The Committee feels that our consolidation vote should be after the general election in case consolidation is repealed. Everyone also hopes the legislature passes the "no penalty for a year" for everyone. Research is needed to find out the laws in place that will affect when another referendum can be held after a general election referendum in November. Also, is there a minimum number of voters needed for the RSU referendum to make it legal. (% of voters who voted in the general election)??

Some costs (time & monetary) of forming an RSU: New registrations and titles for busses, deed transfers and documentation, re-lettering busses, new bank accounts, Federal ID number, insurance coverage changes & updates, address and post office boxes for Central Office, RSU letterhead and envelopes to name a few. The proposed plan allows \$50,000 as startup funds.

Dr. Smith explained that this plan is a "Modified" plan and therefore when submitted should contain the old meeting dates and all of the old plan minutes.

Any savings should be put down on paper. With the proposed RSU group being a lot smaller than the first time, the savings will be different. Some of the cost savings have already been realized by both districts with the Inter-Local Agreement. (Superintendent, Special Education, Food Service, Adult Education, and Maintenance/Transportation) With the addition of technology next year, the savings would seem to cover all required elements in the law.

Actual figures for savings must be put together for the public to consider, a requirement in the law.

Dr. Smith explained briefly the Revenue forecast for 2009/10. The first printout from the State was released in haste and when corrected, both districts will probably be receiving less than reported. Mill rate increases by the state as well as valuation adjustments will affect subsidies.

It was asked if State Law determined what System Administration staff a district must have. Dr. Smith responded NO. The EPS formula has restrictions on what a District will receive in reimbursement for staffing, but the law does not determine the number of staff a system feels it needs.

13a. Ellen Giberson asked what the procedure would be to reduce Central Office staff. Dr. Smith explained that a procedure would have to be developed and followed. Positions needed would be outlined and applications would be accepted. Interviews would follow with the new RSU Board. There are many fine employees so reducing staff will be difficult.

13D. Mitchell Quint proposed sending municipalities contracts in which they promise to send students to out District schools for so many years. It was felt by some members of the committee that this would not be received well by some sending towns. They may not have a problem sending students, but signing a contract to bind them would not be acceptable. We may loose students if feathers are ruffled.

13G(a). Mileage between proposed RSU schools was researched and reported by Mitchell Quint.

13G(b). It was discussed that enrollment should include all attending students-this number should include tuition students.

Dr. Smith asked the committee what other language should be considered as additions to the Modified Plan.

1. Wording to not close Valley High School. Discussion followed in reference to if this means never or if there would be some wording to address closing the High School if there was a significant drop in student enrollment. 30%-40% decrease in enrollment was proposed.
Brian Malloy asked if the State in any way mandates the minimum number of students in schools. Dr. Smith replied no, island schools have very small numbers of students and stay operational.
2. Add wording to state that all Board Meetings and Annual Budget meetings should rotate between the two current school districts, e.g. Bingham and Anson.
3. Add wording to state that School Board Directors will receive the maximum amount allowed by the state to attend a Board Meeting(regular & special included).

For the next meeting Dr. Smith will present Cost Sharing Formulas with currently available figures to illustrate financial changes, if any, for both Districts.

Next Meeting will be April 29, 2009 at 7 p.m. at the Moscow Elementary School.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

and

Regional Planning Committee Meeting (SAD 74 and SAD 13)

Moscow Elementary School
Moscow, ME

MINUTES April April 29, 2009

Committee Members in Attendance: Dwight Barron, Mitchell Quint, G. Wayne Rugh, Brian Malloy, Norman Dionne, Ellen Giberson, Pauline Lagasse

Others in Attendance: Kenneth Smith, Tammy Conners, Bonnie Atwood, Maynard Lagasse

Mitchell Quint, RPC Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

- 1.) Mr. Quint welcomed everyone and committee members introduced themselves.
- 2.) The committee received minutes of the April 8, 2009 RPC meeting held at Solon Elementary School.
Upon motion by Dwight Barron and second by G. Wayne Rugh, the Committee voted by unanimous consent to approve the Minutes of the RPC Meeting of April 8, 2009.

Dr. Smith reviewed the new Cost Sharing language that was inserted in the plan document. This is the wording used by RSU#10 in their final consolidation plan which the State feels is one of the best cost sharing formulas approved in any plan. Dr. Smith spoke with Dick Spencer, a lawyer with the law firm of Drummond Woodsum about the meaning of certain parts of the plan since Mr. Spencer assisted in its development. Discussion followed Dr. Smith's explanation. The cost sharing formula has been changed to reflect a 50-50 split in additional local funds from the original 25-75 split. It is thought that this change may help Embden and Moscow and be the most fair for all towns. Jimmy Mathieu asked if Dr. Smith could produce an example of how the cost sharing formula would look when actual figures were used. Dr. Smith warned that we had no crystal ball available to us to determine what the EPS formula will fund in the future which would directly affect the local shares. When final budgets are voter approved for FY 10, a visual will be produced to illustrate how the Cost Sharing Formula will work.

Jimmy asked if the FY 10 State funding was finalized? Dr. Smith indicated that the State was moving very slow in enacting legislation but the Governor has indicated the state will use stimulus dollars to keep the funding level at the current year level. For the FY 11 funding year, the

cupboards will be bare with the state contributing less dollars to GPA than in FY 10. A significant state shortfall is predicted.

Motion by Dwight Barron, seconded by Jimmy Mathieu to accept in concept Article 13B Cost Sharing in Regional School Unit current wording. **Motion passed by unanimous consent**

The expected savings with forming an RSU was discussed. Dr. Smith explained that the area targeted for savings is Central Office Administration. The State calls for a District with 2000 or less students and up to 150 employees to need three Central Office Staff. A combination of MSAD #13 and #74 should need no more than the state guideline and maybe less. Brian Malloy suggested that Payroll and Accounts Payable could be done by one person. Discussions about what else is involved in operating a Central Office and running a School District followed with questions posed as to who else is going to do take on the various clerical responsibilities. It was noted that a Central Office performs many more tasks than just payroll and accounts payable.

It was asked why MSAD #13 and MSAD #74 could not just continue indefinitely with the state approved Inter-Local Agreement. Dr. Smith warned that, under current law, both districts would incur penalties after the grace period expires and that the state would continue to expect all Districts to find partners.

Maynard Lagasse also pointed out that EPS funding will year after year decrease due to the State increases in town valuations.

13H. Other - New wording added was reviewed. Brian Malloy suggested that wording be changed to say "Upper Kennebec Valley High School in Bingham will be closed only if unanimously voted by four Moscow and Bingham Board members." Discussion followed and the alternate wording proposed is "No school in the RSU will be closed for five years unless the student enrollment drops significantly and it becomes prudent to consider other alternatives."

Mitch Quint proposed that the RSU Referendum be held on the same date in November 2009 of the general state election, reducing expenses and possibly increasing voter turn out. A note would be added to the ballot, and in the RSU plan, that if consolidation is repealed statewide, the vote to consolidate is invalid. It was reported that there is no restriction on when another referendum could be held after a general election. Some committee members feel that holding the RSU referendum on the same day of the general election may cause confusion for voters. They will be asked to repeal consolidation as part of the general election and pass consolidation in their town by approving the RSU plan.

The next Meeting will be scheduled when the 6/30/09 year end figures are available. The meeting will be held at Solon Elementary School at 7 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Regional Planning Committee Meeting (SAD 74 and SAD 13)

Solon Elementary School
Solon, ME

MINUTES October 28, 2009

Committee Members in Attendance: Dwight Barron, G. Wayne Rugh, Brian Malloy, Ellen Giberson, Pauline Lagasse, Bonnie Atwood (Alternate), Jimmy Mathieu, and Gene Hutchins

Others in Attendance: Kenneth Smith, Tammy Conners, Jean Butler

Brian Malloy, RPC Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. Chairman Mitchell Quint was ill.

- 1.) Mr. Malloy welcomed everyone and committee members present introduced themselves.
- 3.) The committee received minutes of the April 29, 2009 RPC meeting held at Moscow Elementary School.
Upon motion by Pauline Lagasse and second by Dwight Barron, the Committee voted by unanimous consent to approve the Minutes of the RPC Meeting of April 29, 2009.
- 4.) Dr. Smith reviewed the updated plan which had been changed to reflect current 6/30/09 financial data.
- 5.) Dr. Smith detailed where the three year estimated savings amounts would be realized. Through the Inter-Local Agreement, many of the estimated savings are already being realized. Areas of savings are projected to be in reducing the position of Superintendent (MSAD #74), Special Education Director, IT Manager and staff (MSAD #13), and closing one Central Office.

Ellen Giberson asked if there could be even more savings if we continued with the Inter-Local agreement. Dr. Smith responded "Yes".
- 6.) Dr. Smith reviewed the options for an outside agency to develop a survey to be administered to citizens in both Districts. The survey would collect data relating to community attitudes, support and input on consolidation. The cost estimates are \$7,500. It was decided that the cost was prohibitive and that using a model from another district, with changes to suit our situation, would be the alternative for us. Brian Malloy feels that a lot of salesmanship will be needed to get consolidation passed. Jimmy Mathieu sees no support in Moscow. Pauline Lagasse suggested delivering a flyer door to door and explaining the plan to citizens one on one.

Dr. Smith presented data on shrinking enrollments and subsidy. Possibly with these projections, the future may afford fewer schools in each District. Brian Malloy pointed out the high pupil cost at Valley High School.

- 7.) Dr. Smith updated the group on the State's support for reorganization. There is no support at this time. The state is maintaining a low profile until after the November Referendum and the vote to repeal Consolidation. Dr. Smith reported that there was approximately \$1,500 in the RPC account for legal and other RPC expenses.
- 8.) The group discussed posting the modified plan on the District websites and dropping copies at the town Offices. Brian Malloy suggested adding hard figures to the plan's cost sharing Formula (13-B), to hopefully make actual financial impact to taxpayers more clear. He feels the general public will not understand the formula as written.
- 9.) No future dates were set. The plan requires review by legal council, approval by the RPC, approval from both School Boards, and approval by the Commissioner of Education. The group felt that the plan should be posted for public review ASAP.
- 10.) No action
- 11.) Dr. Smith reported that he feels that no matter which way a consolidation vote goes, the legislature will make changes to plug holes in the current consolidation laws. The cost of not consolidating will be significant and the cost savings to be realized will be significant.

Jimmy Mathieu touched on the effects of joining sports. He feels that by joining teams into one, not two, many students wishing to play a sport will be left out due to reduced need of players.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Regional Planning Committee Meeting (SAD 74 and SAD 13)

Moscow Elementary School
Moscow, ME

MINUTES November 18, 2009

Committee Members in Attendance: Andy Davis, Dwight Barron, Mitchell Quint, G. Wayne Rugh, Brian Malloy, Ellen Giberson, Pauline Lagasse, Jimmy Mathieu, and Gene Hutchins

Others in Attendance: Kenneth Smith, Tammy Conners, Jed Spear, Essie Golden, Tom Moore, Donald Beane and Camille Beane

Mitchell Quint, RPC Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

- 1.) Mr. Quint welcomed everyone and committee members present introduced themselves.
- 2.) Those in attendance pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.
- 3.) The committee received minutes of the October 28, 2009 RPC meeting held at Solon Elementary School.
Upon motion by Dwight Barron and second by G. Wayne Rugh, the Committee voted by unanimous consent to approve the Minutes of the RPC Meeting of October 28, 2009.
- 4.) Dr. Smith reviewed the next legal steps that must be taken before submitting a Plan to the State and then the voters for approval.
- 5.) Dr. Smith detailed the most current changes made to the Plan. Many changes were made after legal counsel reviewed the complete Plan. Dr. Smith reported that the best effort has been taken to update all figures to the most current values. Contracts for personnel will hopefully all expire on the same dates. (Some are unsure due to negotiations being underway for some groups)

Andy Davis asked who would determine what "significantly" would mean in Section 13-H.
It was stated that this determination would be up to the new RSU Board of Directors.

Brain Malloy clarified that per the wording also in Section 13-H, any school currently in either MSAD #13 or MSAD #74 would have to be legally closed by the current Board Members and voters before June 30, 2010.

- 6.) Upon motion by Andy Davis and second by G. Wayne Rugh, the Committee voted by unanimous consent to approve the Modified Reorganization Plan.
- 7.) Upon motion by Dwight Barron and second by Brian Malloy, the Committee voted by unanimous consent to submit the Modified Reorganization Plan to the Board of Directors of MSAD #13 and MSAD #74, respectively, for action.
- 8.) Dr. Smith reviewed the legal timeline requirements for holding a referendum. Legal counsel has assured us that the requirements have not been changed since the last Consolidation Referendum.

The first matter of business is to set Special Board Meetings as soon as possible to get the School Boards of both districts to formally vote to submit the Modified Reorganization Plan to the State for approval.

The group discussed how Public Hearings should be set up so that the maximum amount of interested citizens might attend. Suggestions were one for each district and a joint Hearing at Solon Elementary School. It was decided that with past turn out numbers for Public Hearings, there will be only one Hearing for each district. There will not be a joint Hearing in Solon. Tentative dates were set for January 5, 2010 at Quimby School for MSAD #13 and January 13, 2010 at a location to be determined for MSAD #74.

To promote and explain the Plan, committee members will attend any public meetings to which they are invited and speak about the Plan.

- 9.) The committee agreed upon a tentative date of January 19, 2010 for the Referendum Vote. All other deadlines would be backed up appropriately from this date.
- 10.) No action

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,